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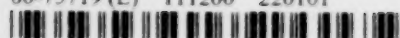
**Quadrennial reports, 1995-1998 submitted through the
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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. Association of Third World Studies

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

Introduction

The Association of Third World Studies (ATWS) has enjoyed consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since 1995. The following report will first review ATWS's four objectives as an organization and will then discuss the activities of its two New York representatives. In addition, the report will describe the activities of two ATWS members who worked with two United Nations human rights tribunals and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests.

Objectives of ATWS

The objectives of ATWS include: (a) providing ongoing open forums to discuss and analyse third world problems and developments from different perspectives or viewpoints, and thus improve understanding of the underlying forces shaping the destiny of the third world and impacting global developments; (b) promoting professional development through the encouragement of research, publication and teaching in the area of third world studies; (c) facilitating professional and social communication by sponsoring activities that will bring together persons interested in third world studies; and (d) promoting the enhancement of the quality of life of third world peoples through formal association with private institutions involved with development in the third world. Our web site, at www.wiu.edu/users/mfmbk/atws/index.htm, includes a posting of these objectives.

Membership of ATWS

In addition to a membership base of 334 individuals resident in the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Japan, ATWS also has 112 members located in the third world. Some of this membership is concentrated in large chapters, including that of Kenya with 43 members followed closely by Nigeria with 25 and India with another 14 members. The international component of our membership has grown in the 1995-1998 period and we anticipate further expansion in the future as we will begin to hold our annual meeting at international venues.

Participation in United Nations activities

ATWS's first representative, who served from early 1996 to may 1998, had a background working with the United Nations Observer Mission to the South African elections and was the Geneva representative for the Minority Rights Group of London from 1991 to 1994. In 1996/97 he attended as many Thursday morning NGO briefings by the Department of Public Information as his schedule allowed. He also attempted to elicit ATWS member input and at the organization's annual meeting in Hartford, Connecticut, in October 1997 he made a special United Nations presentation to the membership.

In May 1998 that representative relinquished his role and was replaced by another member, Dr. Ihonybere, who is with the Ford Foundation. During the remainder of 1998 our new representative obtained his credentials and met with

ATWS members to connect them to the United Nations. For example, at its October 1998 annual meeting in Durham, North Carolina, he reported to the ATWS's Executive Council and an advisory committee structure was created to facilitate coordination between the representative and the ATWS membership. Dr. Ihonvbere continues in his position as ATWS representative to the Economic and Social Council.

In addition, two other ATWS members have been especially active in United Nations activities. In June and July 1995 the first member, a specialist in international human rights law at the University of Florida Law School, worked for Ms. Dorothee de Sampayo Garrido-Nijgh of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and corresponded with General Assembly President Diego Freitas do Amaral. One result of his activity was the article "The conflict of the former Yugoslavia in the courts", published in the *Anthropology of East Europe Review* (spring 1996). Later, in 1997 through 1998 and at the invitation of Registrar Agwu U. Okali, his services were tapped by the International Tribunal for Rwanda for legal research. Results of this association include the article "Expanding the frontiers of humanitarian law: the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda" published in the *Florida Journal of International Law* in 1997 and a new book, *Justice in Africa: Rwanda's Genocide, Its National Courts and UN Criminal Tribunal*, published in England in 2000.

Meanwhile, the second member, from the Department of Sociology of Syracuse University, began her continuing association with United Nations activities as the ATWS representative to the second session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF II) held in Geneva from 24 August to 4 September 1998.

2. European Women's Lobby

(Special consultative status granted in 1997)

General aims and developments

The European Women's Lobby (EWL) is the largest coalition of women's NGOs in the European Union, coordinating more than 2,700 women's organizations. EWL lobbies the European institutions to improve the status of women and plays an active role at European level by taking positions on the European Union's policies and ensuring that women's perspectives are integrated into all European policies and programmes.

Since 1995, the EWL budget has been increased from 450,000 euros to 667,000 euros. Owing to the enlargement of the European Union, there are three new member States and women's organizations from these countries (Sweden, Finland and Austria) consequently joined EWL. In 1997, EWL obtained consultative status with the Council of Europe.

Participation in the United Nations Economic and Social Council

In 1995, EWL attended the meeting of the preparatory committee for the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in New York. Moreover EWL participated actively in the Conference itself in Beijing. Its delegation was composed of the EWL Executive, Secretary-General and several members of the

EWL secretariat. The EWL delegation ran an information stand during the Conference, organized European caucuses and attended the official plenary.

In 1996, the Secretary-General and the policy officer for the Beijing conference attended the session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

In 1997, the Secretary-General and President of EWL again attended the session of the Commission. The President delivered a statement on women in the economy in the plenary. The Beijing policy officer attended the Commission for Social Development and gave a statement in plenary.

In 1998, EWL sent a delegation to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in March 1998. It was composed of the EWL Executive, Secretary-General, several members of the EWL secretariat and the experts from the EWL European Observatory on Violence against Women. EWL attended most of the Commission's official meetings and NGO caucuses and organized a one-day conference on violence against women on 6 March at United Nations Headquarters. Ms. Fréchette, the Deputy Secretary-General, representatives of the EU presidency and representatives of other NGOs and of the Council of Europe participated in this conference.

Activities during the reporting period

EWL met the delegations of the respective presidencies of the European Union, which represented the European Union at the Commission on the Status of Women.

EWL published the proceedings and conclusions of the sessions of the Commission in order to inform its members and regularly gave out information about activities related to women at the United Nations.

During the last three years, EWL prepared position papers on the critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action that were under discussion in the Commission.

EWL coordinated the actions of European women's NGOs by organizing regular caucuses during the sessions of the Commission.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

EWL maintained informal contacts with UNESCO and WHO for exchange of information and research and during the drafting of the EWL positions papers.

The consultation and research with the World Bank in relation to its study on the hidden health costs of violence against women was important. This was a major contribution for the EWL study entitled "Unveiling the hidden data on domestic violence against women in the European Union".

One member of its board of administration permanently represents EWL at the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) in Vienna.

The EWL regularly distributed United Nations vacancy announcements within its network, in order to promote women's participation in the United Nations system.

Other relevant activities

In February 1996 EWL organized an NGO follow-up conference in Brussels on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action. EWL produced for this occasion a document entitled "European NGO Platform for Action for the European Union" based on an analysis of the Beijing Platform for Action and the regional platform of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

A meeting between the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan and the EWL President and Secretary-General took place in March 1997. Also in 1997, United Nations radio interviewed the EWL Vice-President.

Documents prepared by the European Women's lobby in relation to United Nations activities

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|--------------------|--|
| 1 March 1995 | EWL position paper on the draft platform for action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 1995, prepared for discussions at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, 15 March-4 April 1995 |
| 5 March 1995 | A European women's agenda for social development — position paper of the EWL on the draft declaration and draft programme for action of the 1 February 1995 World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 |
| 13 July 1995 | Comments and suggested amendments to the draft platform for action, 15 May 1995, addressed to the member States of the EU |
| September 1995 | A guide for women to the Fourth World Conference on Women and NGO Forum |
| October 1995 | European women in partnership — en route to the 21st century. Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 1995, NGO Forum '95, Huairou, China. Report on the European Women's Lobby Activities in China |
| October 1995 | EWL Newsletter: "Back from China" |
| January 1996 | Proposal for an NGO platform for action for the EU — towards the gender contract — implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action |
| 9-10 February 1996 | EWL follow-up seminar on the Beijing Conference |
| April 1996 | Towards the gender contract — implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action |
| July 1996 | Habitat II — the women's view (EWL report/position on the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements held in Istanbul, June 1996) |
| Autumn 1996 | EWL Special Edition Newsletter: "Post-Beijing — one year later" |

December 1996	The European Women's Lobby's Guide for Women's Organizations on the Commission on the Status of Women, forty-first session, 10-21 March 1997
December 1997	Guide for the Use of the European Convention on Human Rights
March 1997	Documentation pack on the thirty-fifth session of the Commission on Social Development (CSD) of the United Nations, including a report on CSD and an EWL statement on women and decision-making
March 1997	Documentation pack on the forty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), including a report of CSW, a list of participants at the European women's caucus, and EWL statements on women and the economy and on accountability, transparency and commitments
2 March 1998	Consultation of NGOs concerning proposals to Governments in relation to women's human rights, violence against women, the girl child and women in armed conflict
1995-1998	Bi-monthly EWL newsletters

3. France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand

(Special consultative status granted in 1991)

The purpose of France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, founded in 1986, is to contribute to the promotion and strengthening of individual and collective freedoms throughout the world and to help women and men working for those goals, to help disadvantaged creative minds wherever they may be to bring their ideas to fruition, to provide support to all those who by virtue of their social status or environment risk destitution and abject poverty.

France Libertés has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and makes regular submissions to the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights during their respective sessions in March, April and August of each year in Geneva. France Libertés also participates in conferences, seminars and meetings organized during those sessions by both the Commission and non-governmental organizations.

In 1994, France Libertés participated in the fiftieth session of the Commission on Human Rights and presented oral reports on Western Sahara, in cooperation with Pax Christi International, as well as on Iraq, East Timor, Tibet and Colombia, in association with that country's human rights coordination organization, during which we called the wife of a man who had disappeared to testify. In August 1994, France Libertés participated in meetings of the Subcommission devoted to the fight against discriminatory measures and the protection of minorities.

France Libertés also contributed to preparations for the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna and to efforts to increase awareness of its objectives and

participated in the Conference. The Conference proposed that the General Assembly should appoint a High Commissioner for Human Rights.

France Libertés helped to organize several concerts at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to assist various Latin American associations (Violeta Parra Foundation of Chile, Children for Music from Bolivia, Chile and Argentina, and the Pastoral Association from Colombia).

In 1995, France Libertés participated in the fifty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights. Our organization made submissions on several agenda items: East Timor, Western Sahara, Tibet, Colombia, Iraq, Togo, Mauritania and, together with the national branch of the International Federation of ACAT (Action of Christians for the Abolition of Torture), Peru. In August, our active work in the Subcommittee in Geneva took the form of persistent efforts to increase awareness of the situation in Turkey, Peru and Colombia. As a result, after numerous meetings, and after much negotiation between experts and governments, France Libertés and a large number of NGOs succeeded in bringing a resolution on Colombia before the Subcommittee for the first time. As was the case for Turkey, a decision was adopted on freedom of speech. With regard to Peru, we persuaded the Chairman of the Subcommittee to make a declaration on impunity in Peru. We also made submissions on China regarding the situation of the dissident Harry Wu as well as Bahrain, Turkey, Iraq, Peru, Kosovo, ex-Yugoslavia, and the Caucasus.

In 1996, as in previous years, France Libertés participated in the fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. We made presentations on agenda items relating to Bahrain, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey and Colombia. At the Subcommittee, in August, we made a submission on Brazil during which Ms. Jeanete Capeberibe, Deputy from the State of Amapá, spoke on behalf of France Libertés to discuss the problem of the massacres of landless peasants in that country, as well as presentations on the situation of the Kurds in Iraq and on East Timor.

France Libertés also participated in the meeting of the working group on a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In 1997, France Libertés participated in the fifty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva and made presentations on East Timor, Western Sahara, Ethiopia, Tunisia, Colombia and Peru. In August, we also participated in the Subcommittee and made presentations on Colombia, Turkey, the Comoros, Peru, Bahrain, China, Myanmar, Mauritania, Iran and Israel.

A representative of France Libertés visited Colombia in February 1997 to participate in the international NGO preparatory meeting for the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

France Libertés is also a regular participant in meetings, seminars and events organized by UNESCO.

With regard to United Nations resolutions:

(a) In our many submissions on human rights and individual and collective freedoms to the Governments of various countries, we refer to the Charter of the United Nations and its various resolutions, where warranted, to remind the

authorities of the need to respect these principles enunciated therein. We made many submissions but will not list them in this short report;

(b) Ms. Danielle Mitterrand, President of France Libertés, had informal meetings with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and took the opportunity to raise the issue of the human rights situation in several countries;

(c) The resolutions and role of the United Nations are frequently referred to in various contexts in the Foundation's quarterly publication, *Lettre de la Fondation*.

The efforts of non-governmental organizations in the United Nations do not always lead to rapid action and satisfactory results on the part of the Organization. It is also true that NGOs have less and less time to make their presentations: currently only five minutes rather than 10 in the past. In addition, States have a right of reply to NGO reports, but the NGOs have no such right. It is, however, important that NGOs be present in the Commission and Subcommission because, to some extent, they complement their work. Indeed, although the United Nations has greater material and political resources, it is not as present in the field as non-governmental organizations, which are in constant contact with local conditions and populations and can transmit any complaints they receive. NGOs also can and must highlight inconsistencies in actions taken by the United Nations as well as remind it of its obligations.

4. International Driving Tests Committee

(Special consultative status granted in 1983)

Aims and purposes of the organization

The objectives of the International Driving Tests Committee (CIECA), which is non-profit making, are mainly scientific in scope and are intended to contribute to road safety, as influenced by the content and organization of examinations within the framework of the acquisition of a driving licence. To this end, the association shall have the following objectives:

(a) The continuous exchange of data amongst its membership relating to both the content and the organization of driving tests;

(b) Setting up studies and research the aim of which is to improve driving education and driving tests;

(c) The organization of studies and research on subjects connected with same;

(d) Cooperation regarding the subjects relating to the establishment of a European driving permit and the consequences thereof;

(e) Collaboration with the institutions of the European Union and the public authorities or private institutions, whether national or international in scope, having jurisdiction in these areas;

(f) The development of tested propositions for the improvement of road safety.

Increase of geographical membership. In the period 1995-1998, the number of members remained stable. In 1998, CIECA has as many countries represented as in 1994. Some countries have more than one member (e.g. Germany, United Kingdom)

1994: 24 countries

1995: 25 countries

1996: 26 countries

1997: 20 countries

1998: 24 countries

Substantial changes in sources of funding. A membership fee was introduced in 1996. CIECA received funding from the European Commission for carrying out studies.

CIECA is affiliated with the European Transport Safety Council (ETSC).

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

With regard to cooperation with United Nations bodies, CIECA, participates in the sessions of the working party on road traffic safety of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

In 1994, CIECA signed a contract with the Commission of the European Communities in order to draw up a "Guide on driver licensing" which would, amongst other things, contain the following elements: definitions of the categories and subcategories of vehicles; minimum ages permitted for driving each category; requirements concerning knowledge, driving skills and driving behaviour; addresses of the authorities responsible for taking the exams, for issuing a driving licence, etcetera. The Guide is available in German ("*Handbuch über den Führerschein*") and French ("*Guide sur le permis de conduire*"), as well as English.

Furthermore, CIECA was requested to carry out detailed studies and to present recommendations concerning the following aspects:

The theory and practical test for category B licences;

The training of the examiner;

The procedure and the periodicity of the medical examination.

Several workshops on these subjects were organized to discuss a best practice solution in all of these fields. The number of members attending these workshops increased during the studies as it became clear that the work that was in progress was important and interesting. At the workshop on the practical test for categories B and B+E, for example, 22 out of 30 members were present. The reports of these studies were presented to the European Commission in November 1998.

Conferences, symposia and workshops 1995-1998

Twenty-seventh annual CIECA Conference, 8-11 May 1995, Madrid, Spain;

CIECA workshop on the contents and periodicity of the medical examination (1), 21-22 March 1996, Amsterdam, the Netherlands;

CIECA workshop on the withdrawal of the driving licence 25-26 March 1996, Stockholm, Sweden;

CIECA workshop on the training of the driving examiner, 28-29 March 1996, Stuttgart, Germany;

Twenty-eighth annual CIECA Conference, 20-22 May 1996, Belfast, United Kingdom;

CIECA workshop on the theoretical test, 16-18 March 1997, Nottingham, United Kingdom;

Twenty-ninth annual CIECA Conference, 30 May 1997, Monaco;

CIECA workshop on the practical test, 29/30 September-1 October 1997, Vienna, Austria;

CIECA workshop on contents and periodicity of the medical examination (2), 20-21 November 1997, Amsterdam, the Netherlands;

CIECA workshop on the practical test for category B, 5-6 March 1998, Lille, France;

Thirtieth annual CIECA Conference, 25-28 May 1998, Tunis, Tunisia;

CIECA workshop on visual acuity, 12-13 November 1998, Brussels, Belgium.

Publications and proceedings 1995-1998

CIECA Forum, Magazine of the Commission internationale des examens de conduite automobile, Fontijn H. (ed.), 1st edition in 1998.

Conference proceedings of the 27th Conference, Madrid, 9-11 May 1995.

Conference proceedings of the 28th Conference, Belfast, 20-22 May 1996.

Conference proceedings of the 29th CIECA Conference, Monaco, 30 May 1997.

Conference proceedings of the 30th Conference, Tunis, 25-28 May 1998.

Groot, H., Jannssen A., *Procedure and periodicity of the medical examination*, The Hague, 1998. Available in English, French and German.

Groot, H., ter Braak, M., *Guide on the driver licensing*, The Hague, 1998. Available in English, French and German.

Ruyters, H., ter Braak, M., Groot, H., *Training of the examiner*, 2nd edition, Brussels, 1998. Available in English, French and German.

Ruyters, H., ter Braak, M., Groot, H., *Report on the practical test, Categories B and B+E*, Brussels, 1998. Available in English, French and German.

Ruyters, H., ter Braak, M., Groot, H., *Report on the theory test, Categories B and B+E*, Brussels, 1998. Available in English, French and German.

5. International Tunnelling Association

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

Organization

Aims of the Association

The aims of the International Tunnelling Association (ITA) are to encourage planning of the use of the subsurface and to promote preparatory investigations for subsurface constructions and the design, construction and maintenance of such buildings by collecting information thereon and studying questions related thereto. The Association fulfils its mission by the exchange of information among its various member national organizations (for instance, exchange of knowledge from highly industrialized to developing countries), by holding meetings, public or not, at intervals by organizing and coordinating studies and experiments, and by publishing proceedings, reports and documents.

Evolution of the geographic representation since 1996

The number of "member States" has increased from 42 to 47: new members are Saudi Arabia, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Ukraine, Singapore and the Islamic Republic of Iran. One country, Croatia, has been expelled.

The number of "affiliate members" has increased from 206 (81 corporate and 125 individual members) to 271 (85 corporate and 186 individual members); 2 countries that are not yet full members have the status of "affiliate members": Costa Rica and Lebanon.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association has supported actions of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA); actions for promoting an underground alternative to crossing the Strait of Gibraltar; acknowledgement of the Association's actions, notably by the ECE; organization of joint ECE-ECA-ITA seminars in Tarifa (Spain), Vienna (Austria) and Rabat (Morocco).

The Association organized in March 2000 in Lausanne, Switzerland, a seminar on fire safety in transport tunnels; representatives from ECE and from several NGOs (the World Road Association (PIARC), the International Railway Union and the International Union for Public Transport) participated in this seminar.

Transfer of technology

ITA sponsored and participated in the following congresses:

In Austria in April 1997 on the topic "Tunnels for people";

In Brazil in April 1998 on the topic "Tunnels and metropolises";

In Norway in May/June 1999 on the topic "Challenges for the 21st century";

In South Africa in May 2000 on the topic "Tunnels under pressure".

These congresses attracted between 500 and 1,000 international participants.

ITA sponsored and participated in the following workshops:

(a) In 1996: in Sandness (Norway), conference on immersed and floating tunnels; Istanbul, HABITAT II; Sydney, conference organized by the Australian group; Cracow, conference of the Polish group; Turin (Italy), meeting of the General Council of the International Society for Rock Mechanics (ISRM); Brasov, second international congress organized by the Romanian group; Chambéry, workshops of the French Association; Turin, meeting of the Road Tunnel Committee of the World Road Association; Paris, congress of the Centre d'études d'information et de formation pour les ingénieurs de la construction et de l'industrie (CEIFICI) on accidents in tunnels; Brussels, workshops on the programme of the European Union on transport infrastructures; and conferences in Slovenia, Russia, Taiwan and Germany;

(b) In 1997: in Genoa (Italy), the NO DIG conference; Cork (Ireland), conference on immersed tunnels; Lillehammer (Norway), the EUROCK symposium; Athens, Executive meeting of the International Association of Engineering Geology (IAEG); Singapore, symposium on "fibre concrete"; Bangkok, "Asia Tunnelling" seminar; Moscow, seminar on investments in underground projects in Russian cities organized by the Russian national group; Lyon (France), ceremonies to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Association française des travaux en souterrain (AFTES); Basel, (Switzerland), international conference on underground works in difficult conditions; Montreal, seventh congress of Associated Research Centres for the Urban Underground Space (ACUUS); Prague, seminar organized by the Czech national group, Hamburg, the "NO DIG Germany" conference; Slovenia, international seminar on underground technology in soft ground; Tokyo, opening of the crossing of Tokyo Bay; Buenos Aires, seminar on planning of underground construction;

(c) In 1998: in Madrid, seminar on safety; Singapore, seminar organized by the members of the future Singapore national group; twenty-fifth anniversary of the Swiss national group; congress of the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (ABSE); Bratislava, Slovakian symposium on road tunnels; Stockholm, symposium organized by the Swedish national group; Lausanne (Switzerland), annual meeting of the International Society for Trenchless Technology (ISTT); Kuala Lumpur, Second Asia Tunnelling meeting; Lisbon, the World Mining Congress; St. Petersburg (Russia), congress organized by the Russian national group; Vancouver (Canada), meeting of the Council of the International Association of Geosynthetics Installers (IAGI); Malmö (Sweden), meeting of the PIARC working group on fire; Basel, Sika seminar, Ljubljana, meeting on the construction of tunnels in difficult conditions; Salzburg (Austria), first "Tunnel Day" of the Austrian national group; Prague, fourth ISTT national conference; Basel, the International Tunnelling Conference congress on risk reduction;

(d) In 1999: in Cairo, congress organized by the Egyptian national group; the Netherlands, the INFRA TUNNEL conference; Tokyo, meeting of the Japan Tunnelling Association; Melbourne (Australia), tenth conference of the Australian national committee; conference organized by the Slovakian group; conference organized by the Russian group; conference organized by the Korean group; ACUUS congress in Xian (China); Brazil, Pan-American conference on soils and geotechnics; meeting on safety in tunnels in operation organized by the European Union; Budapest, the NO DIG conference; Kuala Lumpur, PIARC congress; Greece,

conference on motorways construction; conference organized by the French group; workshop of the Belgian national group; Bangkok, fortieth anniversary of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) conference organized by the German national group; conference organized by the Norwegian group; twenty-fifth anniversary of the Italian national group.

The ITA working groups permanently in operation are: Research, Contractual Practices, Subsurface Planning, Health and Safety in Underground Works, Maintenance and Repair of Underground Structures, Immersed and Floating Tunnels, Shotcrete Use, Direct and Indirect Advantages of the Achievement of Underground Works, Mechanization of Excavation, Environment, Quality, Long Tunnels at Great Depth.

The web site of the Association (<http://www.ita-aites.org>) was created in 1998; it includes over 300 pages. In 1999 it received 285,000 successful requests from 10,000 persons from 80 countries.

The Association has opened on its web site a glossary of terms used in underground works.

Since 1996, the Association has prepared and published the following international recommendations in its journal, *Tunnelling and Underground Space Technology* (TUST): Safety in fire in underground works (vol. 13, No. 3); State of the art, ITA's position on types of agreements (vol. 11, No. 4); Immersed and floating tunnels — state of the art (vol. 12, No. 2); Health and safety in terms of shotcrete (vol. 11, No. 4); Underground Works and environment. Sixteen issues of TUST have been published since 1996.

The Association created in 1997 the internal newsletter "Tribune", addressed to the members of the Association. Four issues are published every year; each of these issues includes a Focus on a given country.

The present report was prepared for the ITA General Assembly 2000 and has been formally approved by the President.

6. Inter-Press Service International Association

(General consultative status granted in 1991)

Summary

The Inter-Press Service International Association (IPS) provided regular independent coverage of the role and activities of the United Nations, which reached the media, civil society and the international community. IPS worked with many United Nations agencies and bodies at the international and regional levels to strengthen communication, training and networking around United Nations conferences and events, as well as key issues.

Aims and purposes

IPS is an international, non-governmental organization whose aims are to contribute to development by promoting free communication, to strengthen South-

South and South-North flows of information and communication, and to involve in these flows actors representative of the whole of society.

IPS is organized as an international, non-profit association, with some 141 members from over 60 different countries. The members are journalists, professional communicators and individuals or bodies active in the field of information and communication.

The work of IPS is organized along two main lines of activity: IPS news agency and IPS projects. IPS news agency produces an independent, international news and feature service specialized in reporting global processes and issues of development in the countries of the South. The IPS news network covers over 112 countries and the service is distributed daily in nine different languages and regularly in 10 others to media, civil society and the international community with a daily output of around 112,000 words. IPS also carries out communication projects for training, information exchange and establishment of networks.

Participation in United Nations meetings

IPS regularly reported on the sessions and work of the Economic and Social Council, and provided extensive coverage of the General Assembly and of meetings and conferences of other United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies.

In addition, at the following United Nations conferences IPS published a special edition of its independent publication *Terra Viva* in tabloid newspaper or newsletter form:

World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, March 1995;

Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995;

Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, June 1996;

International Technical Conference on Plant Genetic Resources, Leipzig, Germany, June 1996;

World Food Summit, Rome, November 1996;

United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, June 1998.

Special coverage was given to many other meetings, including:

UNDP regional launch of the Human Development Report, Jakarta, July 1996;

First Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization, Singapore, 1996;

World Congress against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Stockholm, August 1996;

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Manila, November 1997;

Fourth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

IPS also actively participated in NGO meetings and forums during United Nations conferences and their preparatory sessions, both at Headquarters and outside New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

IPS implemented information and communication projects with many United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies, including the following:

(a) With the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to strengthen the gender perspective in IPS news coverage through creating gender awareness among IPS correspondents, stringers and editors;

(b) With the United Nations Development Programme, to create awareness for sustainable development in Asia through the training of journalists and NGO communicators in 11 countries;

(c) With the United Nations Environment Programme, to promote sustainable development in Latin America by disseminating environmental information through the newspaper supplement *Tierramerica*;

(d) With the United Nations Development Programme, to strengthen information flows on Haitian issues in order to promote a democratic process in that country;

(e) With the United Nations Population Fund, to train African, Latin American and Caribbean journalists on reporting on population issues;

(f) With the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women, to strengthen communication and journalistic capacities of the Conference secretariat in the run-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(g) With the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, to create awareness on the problem of drugs in Latin America through convening annual national seminars and training journalists, and a series of activities on drug control;

(h) With the United Nations Children's Fund, covering Bangladesh in the context of national reporting requirements of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and communication and child rights in Uruguay;

(i) IPS designed and produced a booklet, "Cities & Citizens, The AP2000 Experience", under the project UNDP-AP2000;

(j) With the support of the International Programme for International Communications of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, IPS extended its weekly "Cities Bulletin" to the whole of Latin America;

(k) With FAO, to strengthen coverage of food and nutrition issues.

Other relevant activities

IPS bureaux and correspondents in New York, Geneva, Vienna, Paris, Rome and Nairobi reported on the work of the United Nations, its programmes, bodies and specialized agencies. IPS correspondents and stringers across the network reported on the impact of the work at field level.

UNHCR in supporting the poultry industry in Tuzla and in supplying over 1 million fresh eggs to displaced persons and other vulnerable groups in the region. Also, in 1995, the organization cooperated with UNHCR in renovating the intravenous fluid production facility at the State Hospital in Sarajevo.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Since 1997, UNICEF has supplied the organization's primary health care programme in southern Somalia with medicines, vaccines and equipment. Since 1996, the organization has also worked with UNICEF to provide safe drinking water and to prevent the spread of cholera in southern Somalia. During 1997 and 1998, UNICEF supplied the organization with 30,000 blankets and 4,000 jerricans for flood survivors in Somalia.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

From 1995 to 1998, the organization coordinated with FAO in distributing 4.9 million pounds of vegetable seeds, 1.8 million pounds of fertilizer and over 60,000 gardening tools to families and farmers in Bosnia. In 1998, the organization distributed 44,000 pounds of maize seed, supplied by FAO, to vulnerable family farmers in southern Somalia.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

In 1995 and 1996, the organization worked with UNESCO to arrange training seminars for teachers at schools supported by the organization in Somalia.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs/Department of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA/DHA)

In 1997, the organization provided a \$20,000 grant to OCHA/DHA to provide educational materials to children and schools affected by an earthquake in north-eastern Iran.

United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR)

In 1995, The Pakistani and Dutch battalions of UNPROFOR in Bosnia and Herzegovina assisted the organization's food aid programmes there. The Pakistani battalion assisted in the preparation and distribution of fresh egg-and-jam sandwiches to displaced persons from Srebrenica; soldiers in the battalion also donated their bread rations. The Dutch battalion assisted in organizing and distributing canned meat to vulnerable groups in Tuzla.

8. National Council of German Women's Organizations

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

The Council is the federation of women's associations in Germany. It represents some 11 million women in Germany in 52 nationwide organizations. Since the last report of 1996 one additional association has become a member. The aims of the Council are the realization of the equal status of women in all parts of society, the promotion of democracy and international cooperation.

The Council attaches great importance to the work of the United Nations. Therefore, it has accredited permanent representatives to the United Nations Offices in Geneva and Vienna. The sessions of the General Assembly in New York are attended by representatives from headquarters. During the reporting period the Council was also represented at the fortieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, March 1996) and the fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, March/April 1996). At the latter, the Council initiated meetings between NGOs and the German delegation at the Permanent Mission of Germany in Geneva, including the German Parliament Committee on Foreign and Humanitarian Affairs. Together with the Geneva-based NGOs, the Council made two oral statements, on violence against women and on the girl child.

The Council also attended the following:

- (a) Annual session of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) (Geneva, April 1996); together with the ECE-NGO Working Group on Women the Council was successful in mainstreaming the gender perspective in all sectors and areas of ECE policies;
- (b) United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (Istanbul, June 1996);
- (c) Third Committee of the General Assembly (New York, October 1996) during the debate on women's rights;
- (d) Forty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, March 1997); the Council was involved in the preparations of the Geneva-based NGOs for the discussions among all NGOs in New York which led to statements on the agreed conclusions concerning critical areas of concern IV.B, IV.F, IV.G and IV.K of the Beijing Platform for Action;
- (e) Fifty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, March/April 1997);
- (f) Sixth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, April/May 1997); owing to the Council's lobbying efforts the "Practical measures, strategies and activities in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice for the elimination of violence against women" became a useful tool for the practitioner of the rule of law to eliminate violence against women;
- (g) Conference of United Nations Volunteers (Bonn, October 1997);
- (h) Sessions of the Third Committee in October 1997 concerning women's rights;
- (i) Forty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, March 1998);
- (j) Fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, March/April 1998); the Council's representative made an oral statement on the violation of the human rights of Afghan women;
- (k) Seventh session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, April 1998); together with Vienna-based organizations of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Council submitted

a joint written statement on the agenda item on international cooperation in combating transnational crime;

(l) Forty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, March 1999); together with the Vienna-based NGOs of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, the Council submitted a joint written statement on item 3 (c) of the agenda on women's health, mental health, older women and strengthening national machineries;

(m) Fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, March/April 1999); the Council co-sponsored two oral statements with the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women on the agenda items on women's rights and the rights of the child;

(n) Eighth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, April/May 1999); together with the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Council submitted a joint written statement on the agenda item on the elaboration of an international convention against transnational organized crime;

(o) Since January 1999 the Council has attended all sessions of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in Vienna. It has successfully lobbied delegations for women's human rights and for mainstreaming the gender perspective into the Convention and its three protocols.

The Council is a member of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO). In Geneva, it is a member of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women and all its working groups, including the ECE Working Group on Women. In Vienna, it is a member of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women and the Vienna Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Through these bodies the Council has lobbied the relevant United Nations secretariats, ILO and WHO.

In the national field, the Council lobbies the Government of Germany, Parliament and political parties for the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and the Beijing Platform for Action. In this context the Council was very active in lobbying for the introduction of the principle of equality in the Amsterdam Treaty of the European Union, which was adopted in 1997.

The Council, through its Vienna-based representative, submitted a letter to the Secretary-General of the United Nations during his visit to Vienna in May 1997 on the reform of the United Nations system, urging him to consider the gender perspective in the reform process.

The Council publishes a monthly magazine, *inter alia*, reporting on United Nations activities.

9. New Humanity

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

Introduction

New Humanity is an international non-governmental organization in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and represents the activities of four related organizations at the United Nations: New Humanity, Inc., New Families, Youth for a United World and Young for Unity. The purpose of these organizations, present in over 180 countries, is to improve the economic and social conditions of people in all societies according to the spirit of unity and solidarity inspired by the Focolare Movement. New Humanity, Youth for a United World, Young for Unity, New Families, and their affiliate, the Focolare Movement, were founded by Chiara Lubich in Italy beginning in 1943 and they have spread around the world. Since New Humanity received consultative status with the United Nations in 1987, membership has grown from 2 million to 2.5 million members and its publications and broadcasts reach an additional 2 million people. Funding continues to come primarily from the generosity of its members.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations bodies

On 12 February 1998, New Humanity presented a paper (E/CN.5/1998/NGO/4) at the thirty-sixth session of the Commission on Social Development on the positive contributions of the elderly to society in support of the preparations for the International Year of Older Persons. Four members of New Humanity attended the session from 10-19 February.

The International Bureau of Economy and Work (the Bureau), an institute of New Humanity, has been doing research on the Tobin Tax as a means of circumventing the present lack of regulation on speculative transactions in the international capital markets. This lack of regulation continues to affect the political and economic freedom of nations and reduces developing countries' ability to service their debt. The Bureau met with senior staff of the secretariat of the Commission for Social Development in 1998 to discuss the need for such controls; they were asked to write a paper, which is in progress. They have also met with analysts in the Commission regarding the Bureau's development of the Economy of Communion and Culture of Giving and to discuss the Bureau's work in sustainable development and management.

On 31 May 1999, the Bureau met again with staff of the Commission at a congress of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg where the Bureau made a new proposal about using the revenues of a Tobin Tax to provide debt relief for developing countries.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Chiara Lubich, founder of the Focolare Movement, was awarded the 1996 UNESCO Prize for Peace Education. She spoke of the work of the Movement and New Humanity at the award ceremony at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

New Humanity co-sponsored an international congress on the ageing in Rimini, Italy, in 1997 with Brigid Donelan, a representative of the United Nations Commission for Social Development, as a keynote speaker. The 1,100 participants, who were specialists in numerous disciplines, including medicine, the social sciences, engineering, urban planning, the physical sciences, government, politics and law, explored the theme set by the United Nations for the International Year of Older Persons: "A society for all ages". A video of the event was made available to the United Nations.

Other relevant activities

On 28 May 1997, Chiara Lubich spoke at United Nations Headquarters. The occasion was a symposium held in her honour by the World Conference on Religion and Peace and the Permanent Mission of the Observer for the Holy See to the United Nations. The title of her talk was "Toward a unity of nations and a unity of peoples". Ms. Gillian M. Sorensen, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for External Relations, conveyed a message from the Secretary-General to Ms. Lubich during the symposium. Following the symposium, Ms. Lubich met with Dr. Kieran Prendergast, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

In parallel to the work done by the United Nations in the former Yugoslavia and elsewhere to bring peace between Christians and Muslims, Ms. Lubich has made a contribution by promoting and participating in Muslim-Christian dialogue. On 19 May 1997, she spoke at the Malcolm Shabazz mosque in Harlem, New York City, the first Caucasian Christian woman to do so, and has continued to promote dialogue between Muslims and Christians in other parts of the world. Over 3,000 people participated in this meeting in Harlem with the American Muslim Mission. A similar meeting was later held in Castelgondolfo, Italy, attended by Muslims from various countries. Similar dialogues have taken place with Jewish people, Buddhists and members of other faiths.

One of New Humanity's principal efforts in the last eight years was entitled "Economy of communion in freedom". Through this programme, 651 businesses and 74 home projects contributed one third of their profits to people in need. Aside from collaborating with the poor to help meet their most basic needs, those in business and those in need represent a part of our human nature that seeks to give rather than have or acquire belongings. This tendency towards a culture of giving draws out the basic human compassion for others who suffer because of economic and social hardships. Another one third of the profits of these businesses supports education programmes to help people learn how to grow and prosper in a culture of giving. The final third of the profits remains with the business to support its growth. Details on this programme have been shared with the Commission for Social Development and the United Nations community at annual conferences held at the United Nations Church Center.

New Humanity and New Families manage a programme called "Adoption at a distance" which provides financial assistance to 10,000 children through more than 65 projects in 38 countries. Some of these projects are implemented in conjunction with United Nations agencies.

New Humanity, New Families and the Focolare Movement worked with the United Nations in Albania to fund, manage, and support a Kosovo refugee camp during the fighting. New Humanity provided housing and personal care for over

1,000 refugees. Local members of New Humanity provided humanitarian services and funding while members abroad collected large sums of money to support their efforts.

New Humanity sponsored an international congress on art in Castelgondolfo which was attended by artists in various fields including music, painting, acting, opera, movie production, animated films and sculpture, plus related fields such as industrial design and many others. Over 1,700 people from five continents participated. The congress aimed to recognize ways to further greater unity in the world through the arts.

Articles published in support of United Nations programmes

Examples of such articles published in the Movement's magazine, *Living City* are:

1995 International Year of Tolerance, May 1995;

Words That Matter — Mr. Kofi Annan speaks on "The Challenge of Diversity", July 1998;

Articles on the UNDP work to rebuild Somalia and the UNESCO "Memory of the world" project, April 1998.

10. Planetary Society

(Special consultative status granted in 1991)

The Planetary Society is a non-profit public membership organization whose mission is to inspire the people of earth to explore other worlds and seek other life — through research, education and public participation. The Society has approximately 100,000 members in more than 140 countries. The Society has members in North America (approximately 85,000), Europe (approximately 8,000), Central and South America (approximately 3,000), Asia (approximately 3,000) and in various countries in other regions.

The Society is funded by its members through annual dues and voluntary donations. Except for some few isolated events, there is no funding from Government or aerospace industry sources. The Society has been an NGO in consultative status with both the Economic and Social Council and with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS).

The Society has been an active NGO member through correspondence and connections with United Nations staff and other NGOs but has not been a participant at major meeting of either the Council or the Committee. We sent a representative to one subcommittee meeting of COPUOS several years ago.

However, the Society has been a major sponsor and participant in the United Nations/European Space Agency workshops on basic space science. The Society has helped organize, provided material for and arranged participation in every one of these conferences for the past seven years. The Society provided funds to assist the conduct of the workshops with direct cash assistance to enable travel and speaker attendance and in-kind assistance with programme materials.

The Society has also co-sponsored two technical conferences in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs — one a workshop on interstellar flight and the other a meeting on near-earth objects. We have worked closely with the staff of the Office in shaping the appropriate treatment of that subject as an agenda item for United Nations meetings.

The Society also was a major contributor to and participant at the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space UNISPACE III, in Vienna. Two workshops were conducted there — one about Mars exploration and the other about near-earth objects. In addition, the Society participated in the Space Generation Forum.

Reports from the space research workshops of the last seven years, the technical conferences and UNISPACE III have been published and distributed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in print and electronically.

11. Trickle Up Program

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

Introduction

The mission of the Trickle Up Program is to reduce poverty through micro-enterprise development. Founded in 1979 as a non-profit organization, Trickle Up has helped over 350,000 entrepreneurs start or expand over 73,500 micro-enterprises in 115 countries in Asia, Africa, the Americas (including the United States) and Europe. Of these businesses, 30,535 were started during the reporting period (1995-1998). Trickle Up targets the poorest, including women-headed households, refugees, displaced people, returnees, unemployed youth, families affected by war or major natural disaster, and disadvantaged ethnic minorities. The Program provides seed capital in the form of conditional grants and business training material to families or groups of three or more people, through local partner agencies which provide development services to people of low income in rural or urban communities.

The Trickle Up Program is a member of InterAction, an umbrella group of private voluntary organizations in the United States, which is based in Washington, D.C. Trickle Up is also a member of SEEP (Small Enterprise Education and Promotion Network), which is also based in Washington, D.C. and dedicated to building capacity among micro-enterprise practitioners.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and United Nations conferences

Trickle Up is in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and is represented annually at meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women. The Executive Director and Deputy Director for Program conducted a workshop on micro-enterprise at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995. The Executive Director represented Trickle Up at the World Summit for Social Development at Copenhagen in 1996. In August 1999, the President of Trickle Up attended UNDP's Global Forum on Development in New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

In May 1995, the Trickle Up Program was represented on the United Nations Panel on Opportunity and Participation which met at United Nations Headquarters from 15 to 19 May 1995. Trickle Up's Deputy Director for Program presented a paper entitled "Promoting micro-enterprise start-up ventures of poor entrepreneurs". The report of the Panel is contained in United Nations document A/50/501.

During the reporting period Trickle Up entered into collaboration with UNDP, which continues to this day, in Liberia, Uganda and Malawi. In 1998 Trickle Up began long-term collaboration with UNDP in Kenya, the Central African Republic and Rwanda. These collaborations involve the participation of United Nations Volunteers (UNV), funded by UNDP, to coordinate or implement the programme in all of the countries mentioned except Kenya. In Liberia and Uganda, UNDP has also provided matching grants for micro-finance. In Liberia, TUP-UNDP collaboration has helped start 2,000 micro-businesses among displaced people and their families. Reference to Trickle Up's partnerships with UNDP and UNV has been made in the organization's annual reports for 1997 and 1998. The TUP-UNDP partnership in Liberia was featured in the *Trickle Up Program 1995 Global Report*, as well as in the *Trickle Up Program Newsletter* of September 1995 (vol. 15, No. 2) and the fall 1998 issue (vol. 18, No. 2). In addition, Trickle Up's partnership with UNDP to date has served 200 businesses in Malawi and 300 in Uganda.

In Asia, Trickle Up collaborated with United Nations Volunteers in Indonesia and Nepal. The Program served leprosy-affected villagers through a cost-sharing partnership with UNDP in Myanmar. This collaboration was featured in the *Trickle Up Program Newsletter* of September 1996 (vol. 16, No. 2).

In 1996, the Trickle Up Program began a collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) as part of a research project in Nepal and Uganda, to compare micro-loans with conditional grants in terms of their impact on beneficiaries and costs. The findings on the Nepal project will be available shortly and will be disseminated during a meeting convened by ILO in Kathmandu on 16 August 1999.

Other relevant activities

Trickle Up supports the goals of the Microcredit Summit (Washington, D.C., 2-4 February 1997) with respect to providing micro-finance to the poorest.

12. United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

Preliminary note

Since the United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation was granted consultative status only in June 1995, this report includes activities subsequent to that date, at least with regard to the Agency's direct and formal participation in meetings organized within the United Nations framework.

Since being founded in 1984, the United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation has made no changes to the objectives set out in its by-laws, and its

general principles are the same as those described in the statement of intent included in its initial application. On the other hand, while maintaining the same principles, it has broadened its scope of action by creating new internal structures which have allowed it to make its services available to more individuals and legal persons, in other words to the general community, in a universalist spirit, in all areas directly or indirectly involving issues of concern to the United Nations and its specialized agencies. Accordingly, it has recently established a "Secrétariat international permanent d'assistance, de représentation et de suivi" (SIPARS).

The Agency currently has branches in 110 countries.

The Agency has played an active role in the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, the Subcommission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the 1997 Earth Summit II special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 and has cooperated with the ECE Centre for Facilitation of Procedures and Practices for Administration, Commerce and Transport (CEFACT), as well as the International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL) in issues relating to it.

It has cooperated with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on the plan for exchanges of information in the area of publications such as the magazine *Coopération Internationale*, and newsletters.

It has undertaken studies and investigations and promoted development projects for various developing countries: (a) in Senegal, in cooperation with the Government, the creation of a system of water purification micro-stations to provide drinking water to the outskirts of cities, smaller cities and rural villages; (b) in Tunisia, projects on the treatment and use of industrial wastewater in the context of agricultural development, the education sector, the creation of a foundation to assist in the start-up of small projects for young people without a diploma; (c) in Benin, computer training centre for senior managers; (d) in Mali, a cultural centre; (e) in Argentina, a low-cost housing programme in the Morion/Buenos Aires region. Other projects included in a general programme are currently under review, in particular in the fields of the environment, low-cost housing, hygiene and health.

In order to carry out these activities, the Agency has created a number of specialized commissions, subcommissions, committees, working groups and think tanks. The commission on nutrition and public health comprises more than 200 high-level international experts; the creation of the committee on the right to clean water was announced during the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. Eight new commissions are currently being created on the elderly and the disabled, awareness of the duties of men, family and youth, environment, society, etc.

Next 9 and 10 October will see the official launch of a programme to promote non-violence undertaken in cooperation with the International Fund for Non-Violence, which the Agency has agreed to sponsor. A ceremony at which several thousand people will be present will be held in New York in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, with the participation of well-known international personalities.

The Agency has just signed an agreement with a film production company for the preparation of 26-mm video cassettes on the urgent issues constantly facing the United Nations; the issues chosen are too numerous to be listed in this report. The

first cassette will be distributed next October on the occasion of the ceremony on non-violence.

The Agency's publications include communiqués on current events of special interest which are distributed to members and it intends to resume publication of the magazine *Génération Universelle*, which was distributed during the World Summit for Children.

Throughout 1996 and 1997, the Agency sought to promote the interests of peoples by issuing calls for communications on current issues and invitations to participate in international conferences through our good offices. This initiative produced positive results and will become our permanent policy. In the same spirit, the Agency has worked very hard for many months to create a major database to assist in answering any questions put to it, in particular with regard to the functioning of the United Nations system. The working group created for that purpose became operational at the beginning of the current year.

13. WorldWIDE Network — Women in Development and Environment

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

WorldWIDE was created under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 1981 to: create a global network of women concerned about environmental issues; provide forums for women to demonstrate their environmental solutions and share information; demonstrate women's solutions in environmental management and protection of ecosystems; promote the integration of women's environmental perspectives in development policies; support women in natural resource programmes; and educate the public and policy makers on the linkages between women and natural resource management. WorldWIDE also now catalyses, develops and markets initiatives that support women and communities in environmental protection and sustainable development.

Since 1998, WorldWIDE has received an increase in funding from EarthVoice (the Humane Society of the United States) and in 2000, new support from the United States Overseas Private Investment Corporation and the United States Agency for International Development. WorldWIDE affiliates — in-country leaders and organizations — receive funding from a variety of national and international sources.

WorldWIDE regularly attends sessions of the General Assembly, Commission on Sustainable Development and Commission on the Status of Women and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) consultation meetings. WorldWIDE also attends conferences in the context of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and has created a women's working group there. Other WorldWIDE cooperation with United Nations bodies is either at the project level (i.e. GEF, UNDP, World Bank) or with Washington, D.C.-based United Nations representatives through the Alliance for United Nations Sustainable Development Programmes. The Alliance provides a forum for United Nations programmes/agencies to outreach to the Washington, D.C. community. Through the Alliance, and as a member of its

Steering Committee, WorldWIDE has helped raise awareness of United Nations programmes in Washington and regularly attends United Nations events.

During 1994 and 1995, WorldWIDE organized and then held environmental workshops for women at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. After the Conference, WorldWIDE co-sponsored a series of outreach events in Washington as a follow-up to the Beijing Platform for Action. Between mid-1996 and mid-1997, WorldWIDE monitored progress in the implementation of the Platform for Action among Washington-based groups.

From mid-1997 to 1999 WorldWIDE: organized an international environmental focus group for women state legislators in the United States; organized grass-roots meetings on women and environment (Ghana, Argentina); created a women's climate change network (international/Bonn); was a catalyst for the establishment of a \$1 million equity investment fund for women and environment (United States, Philippines); organized women's groups for Earth Day 2000; identified, developed and marketed women's projects to the international community (Jamaica, India, Ghana, Argentina, Romania, South Africa, Philippines); and supported coalitions in Washington, D.C. supporting the work of the United Nations.

Throughout this time, WorldWIDE representatives also met with delegates to the United Nations and United Nations agency staff in regard to specific country proposals coming from its international network. (A United Nations-related article published by WorldWIDE during this time can be found at www.wia.usda.gov/issue3.pdf — page 3.)

At the 1999 meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development, WorldWIDE organized a briefing on United States funding of the United Nations in cooperation with the United Nations Association of the United States and the United States Committee for UNDP. During the year 2000, WorldWIDE attended the meetings in connection with the holding of the Millennium Summit.

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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. Academic Council on the United Nations System

(General consultative status granted in 1996)

The Academic Council on the United Nations (ACUNS), now headquartered at Yale University, was first created in 1987 at Dartmouth College as an international association of scholars, teachers, practitioners and others active in the work and study of the United Nations system and international organizations in general. The members share an interest in encouraging and supporting education, writing and research that promotes global cooperation, and that contributes to the understanding of the United Nations and international issues.

Membership

Over the past four years, individual membership in ACUNS has remained steady, averaging 900 members per year. Institutional membership varied from 41 to 46 institutions per year. The international membership comprised 45.7 per cent of the total membership from July 1996 to June 1997, 48 per cent from July 1997 to June 1998, 52 per cent from July 1998 to June 1999 and 52 per cent from July 1999 to June 2000. Student membership accounted for 24.8 per cent in 1996/97, 28.4 per cent in 1997/98, 22 per cent in 1998/99 and 25 per cent of the total membership in 1999/00. The renewal rate was 85 per cent in 1996/97, 80 per cent in 1997/98, 76 per cent in 1998/99 and 79 per cent in 1999/00. A geographical breakdown of the membership for all four years follows in the table below.

Location	1996-1997 Members		1997-1998 Members		1998-1999 Members		1999-2000 Members	
	Individual %*	Institutions %	Individual %*	Institutions %	Individual %*	Institutions %	Individual %*	Institutions %
Canada	80/8.8	3/6.5	81/9.3	2/4.9	81/9.4	2/4.4	76/8.7	3/6.1
Mexico	10/1.1	0/0	8/0.9	0/0	14/1.6	2/4.4	16/1.8	3/6.1
United States	495/54.3	27/58.7	451/52.0	23/56.1	418/48.4	25/55.6	422/48.3	25/51.00
Africa	11/1.2	0/0	11/1.3	0/0	17/2.0	1/2.2	16/1.8	1/2.05
The Americas and Caribbean	21/2.3	1/2.2	21/2.4	1/2.4	24/2.8	1/2.2	29/3.3	1/2.05
Middle East					7/0.8	0/0	5/0.6	0/0
Central/South Asia	7/0.8	0/0	10/1.2		3/2.0	0/0	6/0.7	0/0
East Asia	71/7.7**	3/6.5**	64/7.4**	3/7.3**	39/4.6	1/2.2	42/4.8	1/2.05
South-east Asia, Australia					17/2.0	0/0	18/2.1	0/0
Eastern/Central Europe	9/1.0	1/2.2	10/1.2	1/2.4	3/0.3	1/2.2	15/1.7	1/2.05
Western Europe	208/22.8	11/23.9	211/24.3	11/26.9	240/27.8	12/27.8	229/26.2	14/28.6
Total	912/100.0	46/100.0	867/100.0	41/100.0	863/100.0	45/100.0	874/100.0	49/100.0

* Individual members count includes institutional representatives.

** This statistic includes Asia, the Pacific and Australia.

Funding

From 1996 to 2000, funding sources have included the Ford Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the United Nations University, and earned income through membership dues and publication sales. In 1998/99, the organization's core funding grant from the Ford Foundation was transferred from Brown University to Yale University, providing the new secretariat with funding to administer core programmes, projects and publications.

Relationship with the United Nations Secretariat

The Academic Council continues to maintain strong relations with several departments of the United Nations Secretariat, including the Office of the Secretary-General (Kofi Annan is a long-standing ACUNS member), the United Nations University, the substantive Departments of Peacekeeping Operations, Humanitarian Affairs and Political Affairs, and the Training Service of the Office of Human Resources Management. The Academic Council is an NGO affiliate of the Department of Public Information and has consultative status with Economic and Social Council.

Programmes and governance

Annual Meeting

Over 120 scholars, practitioners and graduate students attend this two-day conference. The Annual Meeting's format consists of plenary sessions, followed by smaller panel discussions, which include the participation of United Nations staff members. The conference traditionally hosts the John W. Holmes Memorial Lecture; the lecture is one in a series of lectures on international organization delivered at the Annual Meeting in honour of a distinguished Canadian diplomat-scholar and founding member of ACUNS. The Academic Council's Board of Directors and Executive meetings are held at the Annual Meeting as well. Conferences have been held consecutively from 1996 to 2000 in Turin, Italy, San José, Cornwallis, Nova Scotia (Canada), New York and Oslo. The Twelfth Annual Meeting was held at United Nations Headquarters, organized in cooperation with the United Nations Office of the Assistant Secretary-General for External Relations.

The ACUNS/ASIL summer workshop

The purposes of the workshop are to encourage new directions in international organizations and related legal studies, establish and strengthen contact among legal and international relations scholars and United Nations staff, and stimulate teaching and research in these subjects. The summer workshop selects 20-25 participants on a competitive basis; five of those selected are United Nations staff members, pre-selected separately by the United Nations. The workshop consists of presentations by and interactions with experts in the field, exercises and discussions focusing on developing greater links between academics and practitioners, skills development in teaching, research and writing on international organization and participant presentations.

Dissertation awards

In an effort to invest in the next generation of scholars, ACUNS, with financial support from the Ford Foundation, established a competitive awards programme for one or two social scientists or the equivalent number of legal scholars. The \$10,000 stipend is awarded to individuals in their final stage of writing dissertations related to institutional issues of the United Nations system.

Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations

Winner of the Association of American Publishers Award for "Best New Journal 1996", *Global Governance* is a refereed academic journal, published by Lynne Rienner Publishers and distributed to ACUNS members as part of their membership. It is a joint undertaking of the Academic Council and the United Nations University.

"Brown Bag" series

ACUNS has initiated an informal series of "brown bag" lunch discussions held at the United Nations in the Department of Political Affairs working with Jehangir Khan, Alfred Stephen (federalism), Ruth Wedgwood (International Criminal Court), Priscilla Hayner (truth commissions), Susan Cook (Cambodian genocide programme) and Peter Wallensteen (global conflict) are some speakers who have participated in this series.

Internet service and listserver

ACUNS maintains a World Wide Web page containing valuable links to topical sites and documents of interest to ACUNS members, as well as updated information about ongoing future ACUNS programmes, projects and publications. ACUNS also co-sponsors a listserver discussion group with the International Organization Section of the International Studies Association (ISA).

ACUNS-Yale University research seminars

In October 1998, the Kempf Fund of Yale University in conjunction with United Nations Studies at Yale generously co-sponsored an ACUNS conference on "UN responses to insecurity". In March 2000, the second of the Kempf Fund-sponsored conferences was held in conjunction with the Yale Law School and entitled "Rebuilding societies in transition".

Liaison activities

The United Nations University (UNU) and the Secretariat maintain their relationship in connection with *Global Governance* and has negotiated funding from UNU in support of five younger scholars from developing countries to participate in the ACUNS Annual Meetings.

The International Studies Association (ISA), in particular its International Organization (IO) and International Law (IL) sections, has collaborated with ACUNS on a large number of projects by co-sponsoring receptions at the Annual Meetings in addition to maintaining the ACUNS-IO listserver, which now has more than 400 subscribers. Furthermore, Thomas G. Weiss, former Executive Director of ACUNS, has been elected President of the International Organization Section of ISA

and Craig Murphy, co-editor of *Global Governance*, is now President of ISA. Thus, ACUNS has continued its strong ties with ISA.

The American Society of International Law (ASIL) and ACUNS maintain regular contact throughout the year, especially with regard to the summer workshops they co-sponsor. From July 1998 to 2000, ASIL Executive Director Charlotte Ku took on the role of Chair of the ACUNS Board of Directors. ASIL has been helpful in assisting ACUNS to grow through its extensive network of legal scholars. Charlotte Ku continues to serve as past Chair on the ACUNS Board of Directors during 2000/01.

The Ralph Bunche Institute on the United Nations of the City University of New York, directed by Benjamin Rivlin, with the assistance of Nancy Okada continues to be helpful to ACUNS as the New York Liaison Office for ACUNS.

New partnerships have been established with Nihon Kokuren Gakkai, the Korean United Nations Studies Organization, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), the University of the Americas-Puebla, the University of Warwick and the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA).

2. Association for the Prevention of Torture

(Special consultative status granted in 1996)

The Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT) is an international NGO based in Geneva, Switzerland. Founded in 1977, its mandate is the prevention of torture and ill-treatment. In this context, it seeks to ensure respect for the international norms prohibiting torture and to reinforce the means for preventing ill-treatment. APT runs five programmes: United Nations, Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia. APT focuses on monitoring the implementation of the various international and regional standards, the elaboration of new international legal texts and codes of conduct, and the training of governmental and non-governmental organs active in or related to the efforts to prohibit torture. As a membership organization governed by the Swiss laws on association, APT holds annually one General Assembly and two regular Board meetings, and monthly Bureau meetings. APT has members in 33 countries and an international staff of 10 different nationalities. APT is funded mainly by private donors, financial institutions and the Governments of Denmark, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway and the United Kingdom. It also has a special funding project called "Artists against torture".

APT has regularly followed and participated in the sessions of the Third Committee of the General Assembly (1998, 1999) and of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (CHR) (1996-1999). In 1998, APT participated in the Third Committee dialogue between States and NGOs concerning the follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (VDPA) adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights. At the CHR sessions, APT has published position papers (1996-1999) and has made oral interventions (1996-1999). In addition, APT has attended and followed closely the work of the United Nations Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (formerly the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities) (1996-1999) as well as

the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna (1998). At all of these meetings, APT conducted dialogues with United Nations officials, government delegations and other NGOs concerning the prevention of torture. Particularly in the Commission on Human Rights, APT participated quite actively by suggesting language for resolutions and monitoring the negotiations of the relevant resolutions.

One principal focus of APT is the proceedings of the Commission's working group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1996-1999), in which it is deeply involved as facilitator and legal expert. For this particular working group, APT has continued to conduct legal research on international issues relevant to the discussions in the working group, to produce relevant papers and to conduct workshops (1997-1999) for diplomats and NGOs.

APT also cooperated closely with other United Nations bodies. APT follows and cooperates closely with two United Nations treaty bodies: the Human Rights Committee monitoring the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Committee against Torture under the Convention against Torture. APT regularly monitors the meeting of Chairpersons of the treaty bodies (1996-1999) and cooperates with the secretariats of the treaty bodies concerning access to information. With regard to the special procedures established by the Commission on Human Rights, APT cooperates with the Special Rapporteur on torture, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial arbitrary or summary executions and the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. APT was actively involved in the review of mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights (1998, 1999) and attends the annual meetings of special rapporteurs and special representatives.

Other relevant activities of APT are:

(a) Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions. APT has closely followed the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1996, 1997), and worked towards the establishment of a special procedure of the Commission on that topic (1998, 1999). Since 1997, APT has put major effort into the conduct of a ratification campaign for the Convention against Torture;

(b) Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat. APT has collaborated with officials of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR): the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights; the Director of the OHCHR New York office; the heads of the respective Branches of OHCHR; the relevant desk officers responsible for the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights; the secretariats of the Commission on Human Rights, the working group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the Human Rights Committee and the Committee against Torture;

(c) Preparation of papers. In response to the need for legal papers related to the working group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture, APT has produced and disseminated approximately 400 information packs every

year, which are used by government and NGO delegations at the annual sessions of the working group;

(d) APT has contributed to the elaboration of the draft guidelines on reparation for victims of violations of human rights (1996-1998); it has worked towards the creation of the International Criminal Court (1997, 1998) and participated in the Rome Conference (1998). It has participated in a number of seminars conducted by OHCHR, such as the seminar on indicators of civil and political rights (1999). It has sponsored an expert seminar (1999) which brought together experts in the fields of disarmament and human rights. It has participated in the elaboration of the "Istanbul Protocol" and "Istanbul Principles" (1998) and a handbook on reporting cases of torture (1999). Last but not least, APT, with five other NGOs, participated in the United Nations Day in Support of Victims of Torture (1998, 1999) by sponsoring seminars on impunity (with the United Nations Special Rapporteur) and conducting information campaigns on the commemoration of this particular day.

3. Centre for Social Research

(Special consultative status granted in 1996)

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Centre for Social Research is one of the leading women's institutions working in the field of social action since 1983. It aims towards making women empowered and self-reliant individuals, conscious of their rights. The Centre is devoted to the objective of restructuring the existing gender relations for the empowerment of women, particularly through:

- Mobilization of women, for participation in social action programmes;
- Enhancement of their awareness, skills, productivity and social acceptance;
- Removal of socio-cultural discrimination, isolation and alienation;
- Eradication of sexism, gender inequalities and the feminization of poverty;
- Ensuring a conducive bio-social environment for their creative development;
- Extending and ensuring the socio-economic autonomy of the rural underprivileged in general and women in particular;
- Promoting use of training and capacity-building for a gender-balanced social order.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

The Executive Director attended the forty-third session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, held from 1 to 9 March at New York.

The Executive Director and two representatives of the organization attended the Second Congress of the Global Network of Women in Politics, whose theme was "From rhetoric to reality: women's political participation, accountability and leadership" held in the Philippines from 28 to 30 August 1998;

The Executive Director and one representative of the organization attended the Conference on Women in Politics held in Fiji in November 1998;

The Executive Director attended the South Asia Coordination Committee Conference on Women in Politics organized by the Sri Lanka Chapter in Colombo on 30 April 1998.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Our organization was one of the key members of the Task Force for Women 2000 formed by UNIFEM India in preparation for the Five-year review by the General Assembly of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing +5). Our director and a representative took active part in all the meetings organized by the Task Force and contributed to the India NGO Alternative report.

Other relevant activities

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

We are one of the lead organizations in campaigning and lobbying for the political empowerment of women (seventh critical area of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action). In pursuance of the Platform, we held meetings at the regional, national and grass-roots levels to disseminate information and build a coalition known as the Joint Action Front for Women, comprising women's organizations and individuals from all sections of the society. Our Executive Director is the coordinator of the Front. At the regional level, our organization is the secretariat of the South Asia Network for Women in Politics. At the international level, our Director is one of the vice-presidents of the Centre for Asia Pacific Women in Politics.

Our organization is running a major programme on violence against women, which is the fourth critical area of concern identified by the Beijing Platform for Action.

We conduct education and training programmes for adolescent girls, the second most critical area of concern of the Platform for Action.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

These activities included:

(a) Hosting a number of discussions and the South Asia Consultation at Geneva in conjunction with the Centre for South Asia Studies during the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights (1996-1999);

(b) Meetings at the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva with Dr. Gopinath, Director, and Mr. J. M. Servenis, Team Leader of the Task Force on Industrial Relations;

(c) Discussion with Mr. Nitin Desai, Under-Secretary-General, to brief him on developments in the women's movement in India (1999).

Preparation of papers and/or other material at the request of the Economic and Social Council and/or its subsidiary bodies or of the United Nations Secretariat

We contributed a chapter on informal sector labour and women for the *World Labour Report* in 1997.

Financial assistance received from or given to the United Nations, field-level collaboration, joint sponsorship of meetings, seminars, studies, etc.

Our organization has carried out research and development and training programmes for the United Nations Fund for Women, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Commonwealth Secretariat and others. In addition, it:

- (a) Contributed to and participated in commemoration of International Women's Day (8 March) organized by the Department of Public Information;
- (b) Participated in all major United Nations programmes at the UNDP Regional Office at Delhi;
- (c) Invited UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Brenda Macsweeny to our seminar in Delhi;
- (d) Received Mr. R. Sudarshan, Senior Economist, UNDP, who visited our organization for consultations on a project for strengthening the Government-citizen connection for the effective governance of local bodies.

4. International Association of Penal Law

(Special consultative status granted in 1952)

Introduction

The International Association of Penal Law (IAPL) was founded in 1924 as a successor to the *International Kriminologische Vereinigung*, which had been established in 1889. The Association is a scientific institution guided in its work by the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Throughout its existence, IAPL has established and maintained a strong collaboration and partnership with the United Nations and its bodies and specialized agencies.

This report covers the activities implemented by IAPL — also through the work of the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (IIHSCS), established by IAPL in 1972 to function as its programme implementation facility — during the period 1996-1999 that represent a specific contribution to the work of the United Nations.

The scientific contribution of IAPL activities to the United Nations is embodied in the impressive list of publications issued by the Association through the *International Review of Penal Law* and the *Nouvelles études pénales*, which both have worldwide dissemination. During the period under examination, the vast majority of IAPL publications have dealt with such United Nations-related issues as the International Criminal Court (four publications), impunity, protection of human rights, post-conflict justice and organized crime (seven publications). In particular, the proceedings of the meetings on the International Criminal Court were distributed

to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations, Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Ministers of Justice all over the world.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

During the period under consideration, IAPL participated in several international congresses, conferences and meetings. With particular reference to United Nations meetings, IAPL representatives attended, inter alia, annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, 1996-1999), the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, 1996-1999) and the Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries for the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (Rome, 1998). The IAPL President chaired the Drafting Committee of the Conference and was Vice-Chairman of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (New York, 1997-1999), and also chaired the sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Vienna, 1999).

During the biennium 1998-1999, the President of the Association was appointed by the Commission on Human Rights to serve as the independent expert on the right to restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for victims of grave violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Furthermore, on the occasion of most United Nations and other international meetings, IAPL representatives were invited to lecture, act as resource persons, submit studies or papers or contribute with their substantive knowledge and expertise.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Activities in support of the establishment of the International Criminal Court

The Association's work in the creation of the International Criminal Court (ICC) has been essential and has continued, for the very idea of an international criminal jurisdiction and relevant machinery to prosecute and adjudicate international crimes and violations of human rights was conceived and cultivated within the IAPL framework.

During the period 1997-1999, IAPL organized three inter-sessional meetings of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (29 May-4 June and 16-22 November 1997 and 22-26 June 1999), in cooperation with the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations. In preparation for the Diplomatic Conference, IAPL also organized an informal meeting of the Bureau (4-8 May 1998) attended by the Presidents-designate, the General Rapporteur, the United Nations Secretariat (Office of Legal Affairs and Executive Office of the Secretary-General) and experts involved in the establishment of the ICC.

International criminal law

In cooperation with the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Secretariat (CICP), IAPL organized an international conference on "Systems of comparative criminal justice" (16-20 December 1997), addressing such important issues of international criminal law as the harmonization of different national legal systems and legislation.

A major contribution to the work of the United Nations has been provided by IAPL with the organization of the XVII International Congress of Penal Law (Budapest, 5-11 September 1999), entitled "The criminal justice systems facing the challenge of organized crime". The Congress had been preceded by four preparatory colloquia where the subject matter was studied from the different perspectives of criminal law and procedure (18-20 September 1997, Naples, Italy; 13-17 October 1997, Guadalajara, Mexico; 8-12 November 1997, Alexandria, Egypt; 13-17 May 1998, Utrecht, the Netherlands); the proceedings appeared in four issues of the *International Review of Penal Law*. Unfortunately, in spite of the fact that the topic of the Congress is one of the priority areas of the United Nations, the relevant Secretariat body, the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (ODCCP), although repeatedly invited to play a major role in the preparation and implementation of the Congress, elected not to participate in or contribute to it, which was noted and severely criticized by the 3,000 government officials and independent experts attending the Congress in a final recommendation addressed to the Secretary-General.

Technical assistance to developing countries and countries in transition

Most of the activities mentioned above had a direct effect upon technical assistance and cooperation programmes implemented by IAPL in cooperation with offices and bodies of the United Nations and specialized agencies and geared towards assisting developing countries, particularly African and Arab States, as well as Central and Eastern European countries. These programmes addressed such areas as the strengthening of and respect for human rights within the criminal justice systems, international cooperation in criminal matters, including extradition and mutual legal assistance, the fight against organized crime and its transnational manifestations, good governance and the rule of law, and support in connection with the International Criminal Court.

Consultation and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

IAPL maintains a close and fruitful collaborative relationship with colleagues within various units of the United Nations Secretariat. In particular, the work leading to the establishment of the International Criminal Court and that related to human rights protection has fostered cooperation with officials of the Office of Legal Affairs and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Regrettably, the consultative and cooperative process with officials serving with the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention has dramatically decreased since 1998, owing to a deliberate policy undertaken by the ODCCP management and in spite of the repeated requests for and offers of collaboration advanced by the Association.

This situation, which has been made known to the Secretary-General and other relevant bodies and organs, is detrimental not only to the United Nations as an institution but, most of all, to its constituency, particularly developing countries and countries in transition, which are denied the beneficial effects of programmes organized by IAPL in collaboration with the various United Nations offices based in Vienna, particularly the Centre for International Crime Prevention and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme. Several other institutions, as well as members of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, have

expressed their concerns with regard to the decision by ODCCP to reduce its cooperation, or make it very selective, with long-standing partners, notwithstanding mandates and recommendations of the relevant United Nations policy-making bodies.

5. Mahila Dakshta Samiti

(Special consultative status granted in 1996)

The organization

Mahila Dakshta Samiti has blossomed into one of the leading national and international organizations since its inception in 1977. It is a non-profit, non-sectarian secular body of vigilant women committed to the establishment of a just, equitable and humane social order in which men and women will participate on an equal footing in a harmonious relationship. To this end it strives to fight against social evils affecting women and children in particular and society in general, and also to enhance the status of women and to empower them, as well as to fight against black-marketeering and corruption. Samiti thus strives to work for the implementation of the right to equality granted to women by the Constitution of India. It has 21 branches all over the country.

Aims and objectives

The goals for which the Society was established are:

(a) To inculcate the values of human rights, justice, democracy, socialism and secularism among women and make women conscious of their rights and responsibilities;

(b) To develop among women, particularly of the poorer classes, an awareness of their rights and to inculcate in them a spirit of self-reliance and independence;

(c) To uphold and safeguard the rights of women as guaranteed by the Constitution;

(d) To support, protect and uphold the status, interests, prestige and dignity of women;

(e) To work for:

(i) The implementation of the right to equality granted to women to enable them to participate fully and equally with men in every sphere of life;

(ii) Effective implementation of progressive social legislation and the introduction of such legislation whenever and wherever necessary;

(iii) Consumer education and protection;

(f) To disseminate knowledge gained by the Samiti through its experience and findings for the benefit of all sectors of society;

- (g) To carry out research into problems affecting various aspects of life, particularly of women and children;
- (h) To encourage the formation of branches of the Samiti throughout India;
- (i) To promote and make an effort to achieve equality, unity and cooperation among women of various classes and sectors of society;
- (j) To cooperate with an/or affiliate with and/or accept affiliation from other associations doing similar work in India or in other countries.

The Samiti shall strive to achieve these objectives through constructive activities but, if and when necessary, it shall not hesitate to achieve them through non-violent and peaceful struggle.

Since the previous report we have established nine branches in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, West Bengal, Assam, Tripura and Rajasthan; we also have international branches in the United States, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, Malaysia, Mauritius, Egypt, Turkey, Bahrain and Nepal. The membership varies from 30 to 300 in each of these countries.

The funds received are mostly from the Government of India and United Nations agencies. The international branches get their funding from contributions and donation by the members.

6. Word of Life Christian Fellowship

(Special consultative status granted in 1996)

Introductory statement

Word of Life Christian Fellowship (WOLCF), otherwise known as Word of Life Ministries International (WOLMI), is a non-governmental, non-profit organization established in 1985. The organization and its secretariat are headquartered in Kingston, Jamaica. The organization is ably assisted by affiliates throughout the wider Caribbean, Latin America, the United States and the United Kingdom, and received special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1996.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization is structured to facilitate a dynamic flow of information through networking with Governments and other groups, in an effort to facilitate partnerships for the exchange of skills, technology and financial assistance. The objective of the organization is to encourage development and growth; to be a voice in the global community for persons with respect to issues which affect their quality of life and their living conditions. Inter alia, WOLMI attempts to encourage inner-city outreach projects and to initiate projects related to skills training, academic training, nursery school development, sports, environmental protection and workshops for entrepreneurs utilizing the "mustard seed principle".

The programmes of WOLMI to date have been primarily centred around the mustard seed principle, which is a Biblical principle encouraging persons to begin

with the little resources they have in hand to achieve their visions. WOLMI has fine-tuned and further developed this principle with respect to its application to particular business projects. The mustard seed principle has been shared in the Caribbean region in countries such as Jamaica and Barbados. In 1999, the President General of WOLMI demonstrated the principle to over 5,000 religious leaders in Zimbabwe and to the African Business Fellowship, a large Christian network. During the last two years of the quadrennium, WOLMI has promoted the mustard seed principle in business seminars and meetings conducted in New York, Florida, Atlanta, Connecticut and Texas in the United States.

Local and regional initiatives/activities

During the earlier years of the quadrennium, the organization's emphasis was on cooperative efforts at both the local and regional levels, primarily establishing networks and areas of cooperation through liaising with the Government of Jamaica, as well as Governments of States within the region, namely Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Guyana and St. Lucia. Such efforts resulted in positive alliances for WOLMI at the local and regional levels. Amongst these, a member of the organization was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Correctional Services Production Company (COSPROD) in the Ministry of National Security and Justice of Jamaica. COSPROD provides gainful employment for persons who have been incarcerated, thereby assisting their rehabilitation.

At the regional level, discussions were held between two directors of WOLMI and our Special Envoy to the Eastern Caribbean in March of 1998. The objective was to assist members of the Christian business community. The talks led to an agreement for a consortium of business persons to visit Jamaica to hold further talks with the Government regarding the possibility of project/business opportunities in Jamaica.

Other regional activities:

In the region:

(a) WOLMI was represented as an observer to the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations Regional Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (Aruba, May 1998);

(b) In October 1998, WOLMI's Director-General (Justice) and Special Envoy to Trinidad and Tobago attended a conference on criminology and criminal justice held in Barbados;

(c) The Secretary-General of WOLMI delivered the inaugural address to and assisted in writing the manifesto for ORDU, a newly formed political party in Curaçao in December 1998;

(d) The President-General also participated in a seminar with 1,000 community leaders and workers on poverty eradication and in meetings of the national cooperation agency in the Foreign Ministry of Brazil in June/July 1999.

International activities and activities relating to the United Nations

Internationally, WOLMI actively participated in the international policy framework of the United Nations as follows:

(a) Under the aegis of the United Nations, WOLMI was represented at a conference in Barbados relating to the concerns of youth and parents held in October 1998; discussions related to reproductive health rights of adolescents;

(b) In 1998, WOLMI was represented at the special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development ("Cairo +5");

(c) In keeping with an interest in the applicability of the mustard seed principle to the theory and applicability of sustainable development, the President-General of WOLMI also participated in meetings of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development in New York in 1998;

(d) The President-General also promoted United Nations Day 1999 in Southfield, Michigan, United States, and also received a proclamation from the mayor of Southfield, Donald F. Fracassi, on behalf of WOLMI and the United Nations, declaring 24 October as United Nations Day in Southfield;

(e) WOLMI also attended the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children held at United Nations Headquarters in May/June 2000;

(f) WOLMI was also represented at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", held at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2000.

7. Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action

(General consultative status granted in 1996)

Mission statement

The mission of Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA) is to empower the oppressed and the marginalized by facilitating their organization and institutions to build equal partnerships in the development process, ensuring their human right to live in security, dignity and peace; to engage in critical partnership with the Government and forge alliances with other actors of civil society such as people's movements, trade unions, women's groups, academic institutions and the private sector to enable and strengthen peoples' empowerment processes.

Main activities

YUVA works with slum and pavement dwellers, street children and child labourers in programmes of housing and infrastructure development, running education programmes, night shelters, providing legal aid and doing other human development work. Besides public policy and education, influencing policy, building networks, support and consultancy work, solidarity action, and capacity-building of people's organizations and grass-roots groups are our priorities.

Affiliation with international NGOs

YUVA is a member of the board of the Housing and Land Rights Committee of Habitat International Coalition, a global organization promoting housing rights.

YUVA is a founding member of the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights based in Bangkok.

YUVA hosts the India programme of Focus on the Global South.

YUVA is part of the Human Rights Cities Network promoted by the People's Decade of Human Rights Education.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

YUVA was head of the NGO Caucus for the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) held in Istanbul in 1995.

YUVA participated in the first session of the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda in 2001 held in Nairobi in May 2000.

YUVA presented an alternate country report on the rights of the child in India to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva in 2000.

YUVA participated in the special session of the General Assembly to assess the achievements of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Geneva in 2000.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

YUVA has had no such cooperation.

Other relevant activities

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions and consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

YUVA works in collaboration with the UNICEF office in Mumbai, India, on child rights issues.

Preparation of papers and/or other material at the request of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, or of the United Nations Secretariat

YUVA is working on a paper entitled "Globalisation, displacement and the poor" for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat).

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities, including financial assistance received from or given to the United Nations, field-level collaboration, joint sponsorship of meetings, seminars, studies, etc.

YUVA has had field-level collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the Department of Science and Technology of the Government of India in promoting the participatory resettlement of 1,250 families in Mumbai city whose community was demolished.

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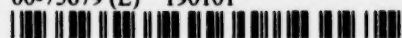
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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. AFS Inter-cultural Programs

Special status granted in 1974

Aims and purposes

AFS Inter-cultural Programs (AFS) is an international, voluntary, non-governmental, non-profit organization that provides intercultural learning opportunities to help people develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to act as responsible, global citizens working for peace and understanding in a diverse world. Through its programmes and activities, AFS seeks to affirm faith in the dignity and worth of every human being and of all nations and cultures, encourages respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and bases its activities on the core values of dignity, respect for differences, harmony, sensitivity and tolerance. AFS is a people-to-people movement primarily engaged in intercultural educational exchange, involving over 10,000 participants annually and a network of over 100,000 volunteers worldwide. AFS currently operates through national member organizations in 54 countries located in all regions of the world.

During this quadrennial period, 1994-1997, AFS has focused in particular on developing programmes and organizations in Africa and on expanding the programmes and organizations in Eastern and Central Europe, in Asia and in Latin America and the Caribbean. South Africa was readmitted as a partner organization in 1995, Ghana re-entered in 1996, and the first year-long high school student exchange programme from China was initiated in 1997.

AFS conducts intercultural exchange programmes of varying lengths for students, teachers, young professionals and workers. The programmes include in-depth immersion in the local culture and language, and expose participants to new perspectives on key world issues such as the environment, marginalized or other disadvantaged peoples, and minority rights. The Community Service Program, a core AFS programme begun in 1997, offers young people, ages 18 and above, a chance to volunteer with local organizations that address community needs in other countries. Projects may help street children lead healthier lives or develop training programmes with human rights workers. During the programme, participants are exposed to new customs, morals, ethics and values that challenge them to reflect on their own cultural norms. The constituent national organizations of AFS also conduct seminars and other activities at the local and national levels concerning themes of universal human values. Many national AFS organizations maintain close cooperation with the United Nations associations in their countries and organized and participated in joint activities, especially in 1995 in celebration of the United Nations fiftieth anniversary.

Participation in United Nations conferences and meetings

During the period under review (1994-1997), representatives from the international headquarters of AFS Inter-cultural Programs and from national constituent AFS organizations participated in the following conferences and meetings:

- (a) UNESCO International Conference on Education, Geneva, 3-8 October 1994;
- (b) Preparatory Committee meetings for the World Summit for Social Development, New York, 22 August-22 September 1994 and 16-27 January 1995;
- (c) World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, Denmark, 6-12 March 1995;
- (d) Commission for Social Development, thirty-fourth session, New York, 10-20 April 1995;
- (e) Planning meeting for the Youth Forum of the United Nations system, New York, 17-19 July 1995;
- (f) Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, 4-15 September 1995;
- (g) Collective Consultation of Youth NGOs on Literacy and Education for All, Tokyo, Japan, 5-9 September 1995;
- (h) Forty-eighth annual DPI/NGO Conference, "The United Nations at the turn of the Century: global issues; global actors; global responsibility", New York, 18-20 September 1995;
- (i) International NGO Seminar "Focus on families: action and issues beyond IYY", Vienna, 6-7 November 1995;
- (j) Commission for Social Development, special session, New York, 21-31 May 1996;
- (k) Second United Nations Youth Forum, Vienna, November 1996;
- (l) Evaluation meeting of the second United Nations Youth Forum, New York, January 1997.

Other relevant activities

AFS Inter-cultural Programs has demonstrated its strong commitment to the goals set forth in the Charter of the United Nations through the exchange programmes and activities it operates, concentrating in the areas of youth, education, social development and the environment.

The AFS World Congress adopted an updated mission statement incorporating language and content in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in June 1993 (A/CONF.157/23). In 1995 AFS adopted a "Global education framework" for its programmes, to further promote learning about world issues.

International and national publications of AFS highlighted United Nations events and themes, in particular the International Year of the Family (1994), the United Nations Year for Tolerance (1995); and the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations as well as various United Nations "days". Many activities are carried out by AFS constituent organizations in support of these, such as seminars and workshops on human rights, conflict resolution, tolerance and combating racism, and, for example, running a "Model Security Council" in France. Information was also

disseminated about United Nations documents, declarations and materials for use in the national AFS organizations, in particular the UNESCO *World Education Report* and UNDP *Human Development Report*, the Declaration of the UNESCO International Conference on Education (1994) and the project "Towards a culture of peace", focusing on education for peace, human rights, democracy and international understanding and tolerance; the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Summit for Social Development (1995); and the Platform for Action from the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995). At the NGO Forum connected with the Social Summit, AFS conducted three different workshops on building global citizenship for a diverse world, presenting practical examples of how to achieve intercultural understanding and social integration.

Former AFS participants work throughout the United Nations system, in non-governmental organizations devoted to the goals of the United Nations, and in government. Likewise, many key AFS staff and volunteer leaders have close associations with the United Nations. The AFS National Director in Germany serves as an expert on CEDAW.

Having previously received a special testimonial from the Secretary-General in recognition of its dedicated service in support of the United Nations Programme on Youth, AFS continues to be in the forefront of non-governmental organizations engaged in youth work. AFS is committed to the goals established by the General Assembly in the guidelines for planning and follow-up in the field of youth. AFS looks forward to continuing to contribute to the planning of the next World Youth Forum, the implementation of the United Nations World Youth Programme of Action for the Year 2000 and Beyond, and the implementation of the recommendations of the Social Summit and of the Commission for Social Development.

2. Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale

General consultative status granted in 1966

The Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale (AVSI) is an international non-governmental organization based in Italy, whose main goal is to promote human growth in developing and transition countries in line with the social teaching of the Catholic Church. AVSI carries out its purpose through planning and implementation of mid- and long-term international cooperation projects in many fields and through an institutional and operational partnership with local institutions, associations and other non-governmental organizations. Today, AVSI members include both individuals and 15 non-governmental organizations, located in 16 countries. AVSI is currently directly involved in 74 projects in 26 countries, many in cooperation with United Nations agencies, and in sensitization and cultural initiatives at various levels and places.

Changes in geographical membership and sources of funding

The Cooperacao para o Desenvolvimento e Morada Humana (CDM) (Brazil), has been a member since May 1998.

- 1996: Private donors 30 per cent, Governments 43 per cent, United Nations agencies and others 8 per cent, European Union 19 per cent;
- 1997: Private donors 34 per cent, Governments 22 per cent, United Nations agencies and others 16 per cent, European Union 28 per cent;
- 1998: Private donors 49 per cent, Governments 14 per cent, United Nations agencies and others 16 per cent, European Union 21 per cent;
- 1999: Private donors 44 per cent, Governments 30 per cent, United Nations agencies and others 16 per cent, European Union 10 per cent.

Participation in the Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

- (a) New York, 28-30 July 1997, UNDP, International Conference on Governance for Sustainable Growth and Equity;
- (b) New York, October 1997, fifty-second session of the General Assembly;
- (c) Geneva, 16 March-24 April 1998, fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights;
- (d) New York, 16 July 1998, Substantive session of the Council, oral statement by the AVSI Vice-President on special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance;
- (e) Geneva, 12 April 1999, fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights, presentation of the book *Where is my home? Children in war*, sponsored by UNICEF;
- (f) Geneva 14-15 April 1999, fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights, oral statement on item 13, "Rights of the child", on the abduction of children from northern Uganda, by AVSI Officer for East Africa responsible for children in difficult circumstances;
- (g) Turin, 4 July 1999, Economic and Social Council panel on "The role of training in promoting access to work";
- (h) Geneva, 15 July 1999, Substantive session of the Council, oral statement by the AVSI Scientific Committee Coordinator on special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance;
- (i) Geneva, 30 September-10 October 1999, tenth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

UNICEF

AVSI and UNICEF shared the following operational agreements:

- (a) Rwanda: 1996, psychological programme for war affected children; 1998, prevention and re-integration programme for vulnerable children and families;

(b) Uganda: 1997, emergency intervention for internally displaced people in Kitgum District; 1997, involvement in core group team on psycho-social support, chaired by UNICEF/Kampala; 1998, participation in the advisory team for the psycho-social assessment in north Uganda; 1998-2000, project agreement for a psycho-social programme in northern Uganda;

(c) Romania: 1997-1999, social services to families having children with AIDS;

(d) Albania: 1998, emergency aid — "Adopt a health district";

(e) Kosovo: 1999, programme for early childhood and youth in Kosovo.

UNCHS (Habitat)

From the positive evaluations made by UNCHS (Habitat) on AVSI's settlement upgrading interventions in Brazil in the past decades, replicable methods and techniques have been worked out jointly by Habitat and AVSI. Research and tests have been undertaken with the support and involvement of European and Brazilian university groups, local non-governmental organizations, town-planning agencies and computer science companies. An international network of operators and laboratories was then established, allowing implementation and continuous updating of solutions and techniques adequate to settlement upgrading and urban poverty reduction projects.

AVSI was asked to present its experience and the methods used in this specific field of international cooperation at Habitat: Second United Nations Conference of Human Settlements and at its preliminary meetings. It organized and attended several international preparatory seminars (Dubai, December 1995, and Recife, March 1996).

The "Alvorada" project, implemented by AVSI in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, was selected by the Conference secretariat as one of the "best practices" at the Habitat II Conference.

UNDP

AVSI and UNDP shared the following operational agreements:

(a) Uganda: 1996-1997, community capacity-building for the care of persons with AIDS and the prevention of HIV transmission, in Kitgum District (northern Uganda);

(b) Rwanda: 1999, promotion of income opportunities and reintegration for vulnerable households in Rwanda;

(c) Kosovo: 1999, village empowerment and rehabilitation programme; 1999, in the provision of food aid.

UNHCR/WFP

The main operational agreements with AVSI were in Uganda: 1995-1997, Acholpii refugee camp, activities managed by AVSI with WFP; 1997, Acholpii refugee camp, multiple activities in favour of Sudanese refugees; 1997-1998, Kyangwali refugee camp, humanitarian aid for Congolese and Sudanese refugees; 1998, Acholpii refugee camp, educational activities; 1999, Acholpii refugee camp,

humanitarian aid for Sudanese refugees, and Kyangwali refugee camp, humanitarian aid for Congolese refugees.

UNIDO

AVSI was granted consultative status in June 1999.

Actions in implementation of United Nations resolutions

Florence, November 1997: Conference on governance and participation: practical approaches to urban poverty reduction; towards cities for the new generation. In working group 2, on shelter, employment and the informal city, an AVSI representative made an oral statement.

Joint sponsorship of meetings

In 1998, AVSI's annual sensitization and education campaign was held on the rights of the child. The use of the United Nations emblem, associated with the wording "UN-we believe", was granted to the whole campaign.

Seminars and meeting organized on relevant subjects for the United Nations

(a) Rome, January 1998, a seminar on "Definition of the roles and tasks among the actors of international cooperation: a contribution to the debate on Italian regulations";

(b) Rimini, August 1998, a round table on "A positive look at reality: poverty and debt in developing countries; cooperation among peoples";

(c) Bologna, June 1998, a seminar on "International development cooperation: an exceptional opportunity for the Parliament to reaffirm a culture of solidarity and valorize the skills and commitment of civil society";

(d) Milan, December 1998, an international seminar on "Children in the world: matters for adults. He who lets himself to be educated can educate";

(e) Rimini, August 1999, a round table on "Sanctions and embargoes: usefulness and limits of these tools in international cooperation";

(f) Rome, December 1999, a seminar on "Foreign debts: which solution? For a new relationship among developed and developing countries".

Publications

(a) "Children in the world: matters for adults. He who lets himself to be educated can educate". Proceedings of the seminar held in December 1998 in Milan.

(b) Magazine "Dimensioni dello Sviluppo", No. 1 (1997): "Women and children come first"; No. 2 (1997), "Social growth in the age of globalization".

3. Baptist World Alliance

Special consultative status granted in 1974

The Baptist World Alliance (BWA) exists as an expression of the essential oneness of Baptist people in the Lord Jesus Christ, to impart inspiration to the fellowship and to provide channels for sharing concerns and skills in witness and ministry. It is a fellowship of 196 Baptist conventions and unions with ministry in more than 150 countries of the world. This includes 43,052,830 baptized members in 162,439 local congregations, according to statistics for 1999. The Baptist World Alliance is growing fastest in Asia and Africa. BWA leads in world evangelism, responds to people in need and defends human rights.

The BWA Freedom and Justice Commission concerns itself with human rights, religious liberty and racial and ethnic conflict. It has forwarded reports of violations against Baptist church bodies to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Its representatives have closely monitored proceedings of both the Commission and the Third Committee of the General Assembly. In July 1998 the European representative spoke on the BWA concern for human rights at a meeting of the Commission. BWA promoted the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights and annually sponsors a human rights Sunday in all member churches, for which special materials are prepared by Baptists from different parts of the world. BWA, through its Freedom and Justice Commission, publishes a series of booklets on human rights and religious liberty. Each year representatives of the staff and members of the Commission on Freedom and Justice make a human rights visit to a country or region where there have been significant human rights violations in order to learn about the situation first-hand and to express solidarity with those suffering the denial of their rights.

Baptist World Aid, BWA's arm for carrying out relief and development activities through its member bodies, spent \$1,253,118 in cash gift funds and \$6,556,745 in gifts in kind in 1999. Most cooperation is done in the field with UNDP, UNICEF, WHO and the High Commissioner for Refugees. New York representatives attend meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development, UNEP and OCHA/Interaction, which cooperates with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs in the Secretariat.

BWA's New York representative has attended meetings of the Economic and Social Council and the Third Committee of the General Assembly, but the Alliance has made no request to present oral or written statements to the Council in the period covered by this report.

The New York representative regularly attends the briefings offered by the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Conference on Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO). He monitors publications, new releases and minutes of United Nations bodies, and passes on relevant materials to BWA officers and to the departments and regional offices. He maintains membership and regular attendance in the NGO Committee on Human Rights, the NGO Committee of Freedom of Religion or Belief and the Values Caucus, and was elected president of the Committee of Religious NGOs at the United Nations in 1997. He also attends meetings of the Committee on Sustainable Development.

BWA receives regular reports on the activities of the United Nations from its New York and European representatives at both the annual Executive Committee meeting and the sessions of the General Council, where all member bodies are entitled to be represented. Reports on United Nations activities are also printed regularly in *BWA News* (monthly) and *Baptist World* (quarterly). They can also be found on the BWA web site, www.bwanet.org.

The BWA General Council has adopted resolutions recommending to its member bodies positions and actions on issues facing the United Nations, including the following:

- (a) 1995, justice, aid;
- (b) 1996, persecution of Christians, church burning in the United States of America, Hong Kong;
- (c) 1997, fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights, peace in the Middle East, campaign against landmines;
- (d) 1998, conflict resolution in Nagaland, reconciliation, nuclear proliferation, Jubilee 2000 (debt forgiveness).

Through its Asian regional body, the Asian Baptist Federation, BWA sponsored training in non-violence and mediation, which has been followed up by mediation with conflicting parties, the majority of whom are members of Baptist churches in Nagaland in north-east India.

4. Counterpart International

Special consultative status granted in 1970

Since its founding in 1965, Counterpart International has developed a successful track record in conducting regional, multisectoral technical assistance and capacity-building programmes through responsible and accountable stewardship of donor resources. Counterpart currently implements innovative community-based development programmes in more than 25 countries in the areas of environmental resource management, food security, NGO capacity-building, primary health care, micro-enterprise development and humanitarian aid.

In partnership with local community organizations, businesses, Governments and international organizations, Counterpart implements this diverse spectrum of programmes in south and south-east Asia, Central Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and the former Soviet Union. Counterpart's programmes have always been in harmony with the international agendas negotiated through the United Nations.

Since 1998, Counterpart's geographical reach has expanded to include Canada, Belgium, Germany, Barbados, St. Lucia and Moldova.

There have been no substantial changes in Counterpart International's funding sources.

Throughout the past several years, Counterpart has collaborated with several international non-governmental organizations, including Global Legislators Organization for a Balanced Environment, an international environmental education

project active in more than 80 countries, involving students in practical initiatives in their local environments. The Global Organization is expanding its activities to include sustainable development programmes.

Counterpart has worked closely with the Global Commons Institute (GCI), which seeks to protect our "global commons", in danger of being driven beyond the threshold of ecological stability by persisting economic growth. GCI will co-present, with Counterpart, an event at the upcoming sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Counterpart has observer status with the Conference secretariat.

It has also worked closely with the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) since its founding, addressing their development challenges and their increasing vulnerability to the effects of global climate change.

Counterpart maintains a long-standing relationship with the Human Society of the United States. Earth Voice is a partner in sustainable development programmes in many countries.

Counterpart has been involved in all of the follow-up conferences related to UNCED, the 1995 World Summit for Social Development, the 1994 International Conference on Population, and the 1995 Beijing Women's Conference. Statements were made at the Donors Conference for Small Island Developing States by the CEO of Counterpart International, Mr. Stan Hosie. The 1999 AOSIS summit session at the United Nations was attended by a Counterpart delegation. The Vice-President served as an adviser to the President of the Summit.

Counterpart International has exercised broad cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies since it gained consultative status with the Council. It has collaborated with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, on most economic and social issues, especially those relating to small island development, women's issues, population, sustainable development, and poverty alleviation. Additional collaborations have been with UNDP on small island development and with NETAID on sustainable development and communication. Through its programmes, Counterpart has worked with the Commission on Sustainable Development to apply sustainable development in the world's forests, marine sanctuaries, and most recently, the tourism industry. In Turin, Italy, Counterpart worked in partnership with the International Labour Organization to support the International Training Centre on interregional cooperation for planning and development. A seven-person Counterpart delegation attended NGO, religious, and other United Nations events associated with the Millennium Summit.

Counterpart has supported the implementation of key United Nations resolutions on sustainable development through a major partnership with AOSIS. It has hosted side events at the fourth and fifth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Climate Change Convention and will participate in the upcoming sixth session.

Counterpart International has cooperated regularly with officials throughout the United Nations.

At the request of the Chairman of AOSIS, Counterpart published, at its own expense *Small Islands, Big Issues*, highlighting the Barbados Programme of Action.

Copies were made available to UNDP and to various United Nations Secretariat departments.

Counterpart International is a founding member of the Washington, D.C.-based Global Environmental Alliance, to support sustainable development activities by empowering local non-governmental organizations around the world. The Alliance utilizes an extensive network of offices and partners expanding infrastructure and project capability to save and protect endangered species, biodiversity, and the great life support systems of the natural world.

Counterpart is a founding member of the Alliance in Support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Activities which groups together some 70 non-governmental organizations to support continued funding of United Nations programmes by the US Congress.

Counterpart co-sponsored special events promoting UNIFEM in the United States in 2000.

Counterpart hosts offices for UNICEF and UNIFEM support groups in Washington, D.C.

5. International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

Special consultative status granted in 1954

Aims and objectives

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) was established as a scientific and technical professional and voluntary, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improve land and water management to enhance the worldwide supply of food and fibre and the productivity of irrigated and drained lands through appropriate management of the water environment and application of scientific irrigation, drainage and flood control techniques. The mission is to stimulate and promote the development of the arts, sciences and techniques of engineering, agriculture, economics, ecology and social sciences in managing water resources for irrigation, drainage and flood control, including research and development, capacity-building and adopting comprehensive approaches for sustainable agriculture in the world. Currently, ICID has its national committees in 85 countries.

ICID has an International Executive Council (IEC) with a member from each of the member countries which meets at least once a year.

ICID interacts and cooperates with a good number of international organizations, some of which are: UNESCO, consultancy status since 1954; FAO, special consultative status since 1955; WHO, liaison since 1955; WMO, consultative status since 1960; International Organization for Standardization (ISO), consultative status since 1975; International Water Resources Association (IWRA), memorandum of understanding since 1994.

Representatives of various international organizations or regional institutions are invited to the meetings of the International Executive Council, such as UNDRP, UNEP, UNESCO, WMO, World Bank, FAO, Swedish International Development

Agency (SIDA), ISO, IWRA, International Water Quality Association (IWQA), International Water Supply Association (IWSA), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank and Inter-American Development Bank.

ICID cooperates with other international agencies in the Aral Sea Basin. It is an active partner of the International Program for Technology Research in Irrigation and Drainage (IPTRID), now hosted by FAO (earlier managed by the World Bank). It has also been associated with issues addressing the problems of rivers of the eastern Indian peninsula, involving Nepal, India, Bhutan, and Bangladesh. ICID was involved in the organization of two international seminars on flood-related disaster management at Hanoi and Dhaka during 1994-1997. It participated in the Nile Conferences, held in Sudan in February 1994, United Republic of Tanzania in February 1995, Uganda in March 1996, and Ethiopia in 1997.

International cooperation

The FAO regards ICID as an active partner of its Land and Water Division, and FAO is a permanent observer of the Commission's International Executive Council. The World Bank too is represented in the deliberations of ICID, besides being a permanent observer in the Council. ICID sends its representatives to meetings of the International Hydrological Programme. It is registered as a category A liaison member of the International Organization for Standardization. Further, it cooperates with all other international organizations whose activities and objectives are in harmony with its objectives. It received the Peace Messenger Award from the Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1987, for its significant contribution to programmes of peace. ICID is a founding member and occupies a seat on the governing body of the World Water Council (WWC).

ICID hosts the secretariat of the International Water-related Associations' Liaison Committee (IWALC), established to promote interaction among associations dealing with the various aspects of water.

Core operations

In pursuit of its aims, ICID has so far held 16 triennial congresses at various locations in the world and deliberated on 47 questions on water and land management matters. The fifteenth ICID Congress at The Hague in 1993, on "Water management in the next century", culminated in a policy declaration called The Hague Declaration. Taking a cue from chapter 18 of Agenda 21, ICID launched its water-saving programme in agriculture through appropriate water management.

Regional programmes

ICID persistently strives, through its annual meetings and triennial congresses to address various vital issues in the development and improvement of irrigation management in the world. It organized two seminars/workshops on water-related disasters and flood forecasting in 1997.

Special programmes

Existing policies regarding the water sector and the extent to which they can be sharpened are studied and discussed in various regions, particularly in the developing countries. ICID is designing some special programmes, to be supported by FAO/World Bank and/or the Global Water Partnership (GWP). They include water conservation in agriculture and capacity-building of women farmers in irrigated agriculture in developing countries. Regional seminars for drawing up national policies for irrigation development in the developing countries of Africa are being planned.

ICID has received three awards: the Dr. N. D. Gulhati Memorial Award (1995), the Dr. Hassan Ismail Memorial Award (1995), and the WatSave Technology Award.

Undaunted by the limitation of funds, ICID gratefully acknowledges the funding support accorded by UNESCO, the World Bank, FAO, CIDA and others, and assures the world community that it will continue to play a pivotal role in improving the conservation of water throughout the world. The institution of ICID WatSave awards for the development of technology for saving water in agriculture or demonstrating water savings through innovative water management, coupled with the young professionals award for promoting water savings, is an important step for encouraging competition and recognizing success, wherever achieved. The young professional's award seeks to draw the younger generation to adopt ICID objectives.

6. International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction

General special consultative status granted in 1954

Purpose, scope and objectives

The purpose of the International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB) is to provide a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

CIB covers technical, economic, environmental and other aspects of building and construction, addressing all steps in the process of basic and applied research, documentation and transfer of research results, and the implementation and actual application of them.

The objectives of CIB are: to be a relevant source of information concerning research and innovation worldwide in the field of building and construction; to provide reliable and effective access to the global research community; and to be a forum for achieving a meaningful exchange between the entire spectrum of building and construction interests and the global research community.

Funding

The principal source of funding throughout the period under review has continued to be the revenue from members who pay an annual fee to the Council. The level of payment depends on the member's assigned category: full, associate or individual.

Membership

CIB's membership has continued to expand throughout the period under review, and it has now developed into a worldwide network of over 5,000 experts from about 500 organizations in nearly 100 countries, active in the research community, in industry or in education, who collaborate and exchange information in over 50 international commissions extending over all fields in building and construction-related research and innovation.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

CIB informs the United Nations of symposia, meetings, projects, etc. judged to be of interest. Direct communication and cooperation is effected through the medium of CIB member institutes which are in regular contact with United Nations units in their region. CIB member institutes execute consultancy and other technical assignments for United Nations agencies. They are agreed upon directly by the parties concerned.

Publications

CIB considers it to be a prime task to give permanent form to the results of its activities through publications, and the output originating from the Commissions has been of three main types: scientific or technical analyses, international state-of-the-art reports, and proceedings of workshops, symposia and conferences. The subject matter of the publications reflects the broad spectrum of CIB's activities and will therefore include references to areas of United Nations interests — e.g., low-cost housing, informal settlements, etc.

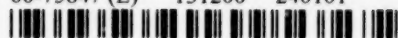
The CIB bi-monthly *Information Bulletin* features regular highlights in CIB's activities. For the internationally minded research professional, regularly updated sources of reference in the form of directories are produced, and recently practical legal texts have been issued.

**Economic and Social Council**

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Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2001 regular session**Quadrennial reports, 1995-1998, submitted through the
Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social
Council resolution 1996/31****Note by the Secretary-General****Addendum****Contents**

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1. Commission for the Defence of Human Rights in Central America

Special consultative status granted in 1991

Report for 1995-1998

Objectives and aims

The aim of the Commission for the Defence of Human Rights in Central America (CODEHUCA) is to protect and promote the rights of every person living in Central America; to raise standards and to teach people about their rights and mechanisms of protection, so as to ensure their proper enjoyment.

CODEHUCA currently has 12 member organizations in the Central American region, spanning the seven countries from Belize to Panama. Since 1995, when the Committee for the Relatives of Detained Disappeared Persons in Honduras (CODEFAH) became a member, the Commission has not added to its membership. It is not affiliated with any non-governmental organization holding consultative status of any category, and it does not receive any financial contribution from the United Nations or any of its subsidiary bodies.

Participation in the council and its subsidiary bodies

In general CODEHUCA participates with oral and written proposals, accusations and analyses. It participated, on request, in the following meetings:

(a) Fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, 1996), with oral and written discussions on, inter alia, economic, social and cultural rights, and children's rights;

(b) Working Group on Indigenous People, concerning the project for a universal declaration of the rights of indigenous people (Geneva, 1996), with written and oral submissions;

(c) Fifty-third session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Geneva, 1997) on enforced or involuntary disappearances;

(d) World Summit for Social Development (New York, March 1995);

(e) Forty-ninth session of the Subcommission for the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, on the situation of migrant workers and their families, the question of transnational businesses, the rights of women, and the application of international standards relating to the rights of minors in detention;

(f) Second session of the Special Working Group on Migrants and Human Rights (February 1998);

(g) Fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights, on the rights of migrant workers, persons subjected to any form of detention or incarceration or torture and other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatments or punishments; on the situation of human rights procedures, promotion, protection and defence, and other items;

(h) Fiftieth session of the Subcommission for the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, on economic, social and cultural rights, transnational businesses; the administration of justice and human rights; international standards relating to minors in detention; justice for minors; rights of women;

(i) Fifty-first annual DPI/NGO conference on the theme "50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: from words to actions" (New York, 1998);

(j) Fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights, on economic, social and cultural rights; enforced disappearances and summary execution; rights of women and violence against women, rights of children; migrant workers; promotion and protection of human rights, the defence of human rights and services for sorting and technical cooperation in material concerning human rights;

(k) Forty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 1-19 March 1999);

(l) Session of the Commission on Population and Development acting as preparatory committee for the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly (New York, 24-31 March 1999);

(m) Session of the Commission for Social Development acting as preparatory committee for the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (New York, 1999);

(n) Twenty-first special session of the General Assembly (New York, 30 June-2 July 1999);

(o) Fifty-first session of the Subcommission for the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, on the right of sovereignty and self-determination; toxic waste and the contamination of military bases occupied by the United States in Panama;

(p) Meetings in Costa Rica with Vittit Muntarbhorn, Special Rapporteur on the sale of children; Fatoma Zohra Ouhachi-Ksentini, Special Rapporteur on toxic waste;

(q) Meetings with Arjun Sengupta, independent expert on the right to development; Asma Jahangir, Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; Fatoma Zohra Ouhachi-Ksentini, Special Rapporteur on toxic waste; Katarina Tomasevski, Special Rapporteur on the right to education; Radhiuka Coornaraswamy, Special Rapporteur on violence against women, and Ofelia Calcetas Santos, Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and on the situation of children and adolescents.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

CODEHUCA initiated a campaign for the elaboration of a facultative protocol for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It participated in relevant forums of UNDP, helping to distribute educational materials and coordinate and execute activities with the World Organization for Migrants on the situation of migrants in the region. It responded to various questionnaires from the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Other relevant activities

(a) Periodic publication of materials with commentaries — for example, on the Declaration for the Elimination of all Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Beliefs (resolution 36/55 of 1981), and on the Declaration on Social Progress and Improvement (resolution 2542 (XXIV), of 1969);

(b) Annual celebrations of, among others, International Day of Women, International Day against Violence, International Human Rights Day, International Day of Migrants, with different activities such as national and regional meetings, marches, conferences, publicities, open-air concerts or children's courses;

(c) The Commission organizes national and regional seminars and workshops on the administration of justice, mechanisms and international means of protecting human rights and their application in the region. For example, in 1998 CODEHUCA held a series of national workshops dedicated to the need to elaborate and approve a facultative protocol to the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(d) Regional investigations were carried out on the prison system, street children, child prostitution and economic, social and cultural rights.

2. Data for Development

Consultative status granted in 1987

Data for Development is an international organization set up in 1975 to organize the international exchange of experience in the field of information systems and technologies, particularly between industrialized and developing countries.

Its activities fall into the following three basic categories:

(a) International conferences on a specific theme (such as the International Conference on Information Systems for Transition Economies, held in New Delhi in 1996). Such conferences result in publications which are widely distributed among international organizations and third world countries;

(b) Select working groups bringing together practitioners and academics from countries of both North and South (dealing with, for example, community information systems);

(c) A network made up of members of the organization and their correspondents to provide a response to requests by developing countries and to give help with contacts and bilateral or multilateral cooperation activities. For example, as the result of a request several years ago by the Sri Lanka Department of Census and Statistics, which wished to set up a register of the population, the Department was, after an examination of its requirements, put in touch with its counterpart in Denmark, where, according to data held by the organization, conditions were closest to what was required. A cooperation mission was subsequently sent by Denmark.

Cooperation with the United Nations and specialized agencies

One example of such cooperation was the International Conference on Information Systems for Transition Economies, held in March 1996 in New Delhi, as a follow-up to an international conference held several years previously in Beijing. The Conference highlighted the new need for information systems in countries in transition from a planned to a market economy.

The Conference, which was organized by the National Informatics Centre of India, the Director-General of which, Dr. N. Seshagiri, was a member of the Data for Development Board of Directors, was held in cooperation with (and with financial assistance from) the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Asian Development Bank, the Canadian International Development Research Centre, based in Ottawa, and the Indian Government. The outcome of the Conference was a book entitled *Information Systems for Economies in Transition*, published by McGraw-Hill/India and distributed free of charge, since the printing costs were funded out of the Conference budget.

New directions for Data for Development

The organization, which began in 1975 by dealing with public administration information systems, is now developing a new programme, given the major developments in information technologies and the pre-eminence of the market economy in most countries in the world, while retaining its original objective of exchanging experience between countries of the North and the South.

New programme

In 2001, the organization will be launching a new programme of work dealing with the use of new information and communication technologies in three areas: communication networks and the respective roles of the State and the private sector; Internet penetration in third world countries and the conditions under which such penetration can make the best possible contribution to economic and social development; and the use of new technologies, especially the Internet, digital television and CD-ROM, for distance vocational training in both third world and developed countries.

New modes of operation

As stated above, Data for Development is above all, a network of practitioners in both North and South. Originally composed of people engaged exclusively in public administration and academe, the organization has now extended its recruitment to the private sector.

The new information technologies will be used by the organization both for the exchange of experience and for the operation of working groups, which will be able to work without needing to meet in person, with resulting substantial savings. Each working group will be allocated an *Internet forum* enabling large numbers of practitioners and researchers, whether or not they are members, to follow the group's work and contribute with their comments.

The organization's newsletter, which is printed and distributed by post, will also be available on the Internet.

New sources of funding

Data for Development was previously funded by subscriptions from its members and by specific contributions from international organizations and Governments earmarked for international conferences.

Data for Development is creating a new category of member, *associate members*, for which businesses will be eligible. Individual members will no longer be asked to subscribe. The associate members will fund a biennial programme through a substantial contribution (US\$ 5,000-10,000 per associate member).

Possibility of a new name

The organization may change its name to "IT for Development/Technologies de l'information pour le développement". A proposal to that effect will shortly be put before the Board of Directors.

3. Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era

Special consultative status granted in 1995

Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN) is a South feminist network of academics, activists and researchers working for an equitable, sustainable and gender-just development. DAWN engages in global advocacy and is involved at the regional level in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America and the Pacific. It is not affiliated with any international non-governmental organization in consultative status, as such, but works in partnership with other global non-governmental organizations and networks. There is a very close relationship between DAWN's work and that of the United Nations. A lot of DAWN's work follows from the work of the United Nations, especially with regard to the commitments made by Governments at international conferences. DAWN actively works, through the United Nations processes, at the preparatory committee meetings, NGO Forums and official conferences, to influence the final outcome documents by offering holistic analyses of global development issues from a South feminist perspective. Members of the DAWN Steering Committee are from time to time invited to advise the United Nations and its agencies, in various capacities. Besides participating directly in United Nations initiatives, DAWN organizes its own meetings and workshops to disseminate its research and analyses.

Aims and purposes

The aims and purposes of the organization are:

- (a) To examine the economic, social, cultural and political processes which cause and perpetuate inequalities of gender, class and race;
- (b) To analyse development strategies and their impact on women and the poor, through a feminist perspective;
- (c) To seek development alternatives for sustainable and gender-just development, through research, analyses, training, advocacy, and communication activities.

Participation in United Nations meetings

Between 1995 and 1998, DAWN participated in the following United Nations meetings:

(a) World Summit on Social Development. At the third session of the Preparatory Committee (New York, 14-27 January 1995), DAWN's platform "Challenging the given: DAWN perspectives on social development" was the basis for a briefing to G-77 delegations. DAWN organized a series of meetings and panels to disseminate DAWN analyses and contributed to the draft programme of action for the Summit. DAWN also funded panels organized by UNIFEM/UNICEF;

(b) World Summit on Social Development, and NGO Forum, Copenhagen, 3-12 March 1995;

(c) Fourth World Conference on Women, third session of the Preparatory Committee (New York, 13-31 March 1995);

(d) Fourth World Conference on Women and NGO Forum (Beijing, 30 August-15 September 1995). DAWN organized two workshops at the NGO Forum, one entitled "Securing our gains and moving forward to the 21st century", and the other "Alternative economic frameworks". DAWN launched its platform on alternative economic frameworks "Markers on the way: the DAWN debates on alternative development" at the NGO Forum. Four DAWN representatives, from Cameroon, Senegal, Cuba and Jamaica, were part of their governmental delegations to the official conference.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

(a) UNIFEM/ECLAC/CARICOM Retreat on Conference Diplomacy and Negotiation (17-19 July 1995, Barbados);

(b) UNIFEM/Small island developing State (SID) international round table (New York, 2-4 February 1996). The round table on "Sustainable livelihoods: foundation of just and sustainable communities" brought together a select group of grass-roots activists and development thinkers. DAWN was represented by its General Coordinator and the Research Coordinator on Sustainable Livelihoods, whose presentation was titled "Moving forward from sustainable livelihoods to sustainable communities";

(c) UNIFEM's twenty-fifth anniversary awards ceremony (New York, 28 October-1 November 1996). DAWN was invited to participate. Prior to this event, DAWN had taken part in two panel presentations at a one-day UNIFEM strategic workshop "Advocacy for change". The panels were on "The global environment" and "Challenges and strategies facing organizations and agencies wishing to support women's empowerment";

(d) UNDP Advisory Panel meeting on the 1997 *Human Development Report* (New York, 7 September 1996). Two DAWN representatives were invited to serve on the panel.

Other relevant activities

Action to ensure the implementation of United Nations resolutions

Preparatory Committee for Habitat II, UNIFEM panel, "From Beijing to Istanbul: a commitment to the world's women" (New York, 6 February 1996). DAWN was represented by the General Coordinator. The aim of the panel was to brief delegates and NGO representatives on the outcomes of the Beijing conference and to ensure that the gains women had secured in the Beijing process were incorporated into the Habitat II agenda.

Cooperation and consultations with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

(a) UNIFEM Strategic Planning Workshop (New York, 9-12 January 1996). The Director of UNIFEM invited DAWN General Coordinator and the Research Coordinator on Alternative Economic Frameworks to this annual UNIFEM event, which brings together UNIFEM's professional staff to reflect on key insights. The Director invited the DAWN General Coordinator to be one of her key advisers.

(b) Consultative/advisory meeting between the Director of UNIFEM, DAWN General Coordinator, and Research Coordinator on Political Economy of Globalization (14 May 1996, New York).

Assistance received from the United Nations

UNFPA provided financial support to DAWN's strategy meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women (15-16 May 1995, Barbados). UNFPA also supported the participation of two DAWN representatives to the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Social Summit (14-27 January 1995). UNFPA funds made possible the participation of seven Caribbean women at the Summit and NGO Forum (3-12 March 1995).

4. Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund

Special consultative status granted in 1991

Aims and purposes, membership and funding

Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund (formerly known as the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund) is a non-profit, public interest, environmental law organization whose purpose is to provide advice concerning environmental laws, their content and application on behalf of other non-profit organizations with an interest in protecting, preserving and enhancing the natural and human environment. Earthjustice provides legal representation for other organizations in courts of the United States and before international tribunals.

Earthjustice promotes the development of international environmental rights and standards through participation in the Commission on Human Rights (Commission) and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, formerly the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (Subcommission). In addition, Earthjustice educates members and others regarding international environmental rights and standards.

Earthjustice has over 150,000 members in 11 countries.

Earthjustice has had no substantial changes in sources of funding since it was granted consultative status.

Earthjustice is not affiliated with any international non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the United Nations.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

Earthjustice representatives attended every session of the Commission during the reporting period. Earthjustice's participation included working with United Nations officials and members of governmental and non-governmental delegations to promote human rights and the environment. Formal submissions include the following:

At the fifty-first session of the Commission (February-March 1995), Earthjustice made oral statements under agenda item 19 on human rights and the environment, and under agenda item 14, concerning the effects of toxic waste dumping on human rights, in particular the right to life. During January 1995, Earthjustice disseminated a memorandum to other non-governmental organizations concerning the report on human rights and the environment by the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission. In December of the same year, Earthjustice submitted to the Centre for Human Rights written comments concerning the Special Rapporteur's final report on human rights and the environment (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/9).

At the fifty-second session of the Commission (March 1996), Earthjustice made an oral statement under agenda item 5, concerning human rights and the environment. At that session, Earthjustice also prepared and disseminated numerous written materials concerning human rights and the environment, including an issue paper entitled "Human rights and the environment — Ken Saro-Wiwa: a tragic case in point".

At the fifty-third session of the Commission (March 1997), Earthjustice made an oral statement under agenda item 5, concerning human rights and the environment. During that session, Earthjustice also circulated a position paper entitled "The United Nations, human rights and the environment", and published and disseminated a study, "The realization of environmental human rights within the institutional framework of the United Nations".

At the fifty-fourth session of the Commission (March 1998), Earthjustice made an oral statement under agenda item 5, on human rights and the environment.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

During the reporting period, Earthjustice worked extensively with the Subcommission's Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment, consulting with her and conducting research on relevant issues. Earthjustice also consulted with and presented research materials to the Commission's Special Rapporteur on the adverse effects of illicit movement and dumping of toxic and

dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights, including a 1995 issue paper entitled "Toxics and human rights".

Other relevant activities

Earthjustice representatives met with governmental officials and non-governmental organizations to promote the recommendations in the final report of the Subcommission Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/9). Earthjustice has disseminated thousands of copies of the final report in all parts of the world and has produced numerous publications relating to human rights and the environment.

Earthjustice representatives also worked closely with, and provided materials to, the secretariat of the Basel Convention and other UNEP programmes in Geneva, as well as the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights. During the reporting period, Earthjustice representatives also participated actively in discussions of the working group for the preparation of a draft convention on access to environmental information and public participation in environmental decision-making of the Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) of the Economic Commission for Europe, which led to the adoption of the Aarhus Convention in June 1998.

5. Four Directions Council

Special consultative status granted in 1983

Aims and purposes

Four Directions Council was organized by the grass-roots leadership of five like-minded indigenous nations in North America. Its principal aim has been increasing the accessibility and responsiveness of the United Nations system to indigenous peoples with a view to advancing the struggle of indigenous peoples for self-determination and encouraging indigenous peoples to play a larger role in addressing global issues such as sustainable development and peacemaking.

As the relationship of indigenous peoples to the United Nations has changed, Four Directions Council has shifted the focus of its work. The turning-point occurred in 1993, the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, which Four Directions Council had promoted actively from the Commission on Human Rights to the level of the General Assembly. By 1993, indigenous peoples had achieved recognition as a "major group" at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and as distinct holders of individual and collective rights at the World Conference on Human Rights. The draft of a declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples had been completed and submitted to the Commission on Human Rights, and the General Assembly in its resolution 49/214 called for the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous peoples within the United Nations.

Although indigenous peoples had made considerable progress in gaining access to United Nations decision-making processes by 1993 and had grown visible and outspoken at United Nations conferences and meetings, it became clear to Four Directions Council that:

(a) Transnational corporations and trade liberalization have become threats to the lands and survival of indigenous peoples in the 1990s;

(b) The primary responsibility for global management of trade and investment has been assigned to international bodies such as the World Trade Organization in which indigenous peoples have thus far played no role at all;

(c) The United Nations system has not yet established a mechanism for effectively supporting indigenous peoples at the grass-roots level in urgent struggles with corporations over lands and resources.

Four Directions Council resolved to take the initiative and refocus its activity on the evaluation and management of corporate conduct and international trade as it relates to the lands and territories of indigenous peoples. Three principal goals were set:

(a) Establishment of a network of grass-roots level indigenous peoples' organizations, particularly in the developing countries, for the exchange of strategic information about their experiences in dealing with particular corporations and industries;

(b) Preparation and publication of technical studies of corporate conduct and of the most effective approaches indigenous peoples have found for achieving some measure of control over corporate activities within their traditional territories;

(c) Promotion among indigenous peoples of strategies for obtaining effective access to the international and regional bodies responsible for managing trade, finance, intellectual property rights, and the development of private international law.

It became apparent to Four Directions Council that achieving these goals would require considerable research and administration. To that point, Four Directions Council activities have been carried out entirely by unpaid community volunteers. No fund-raising had been done, and there had been no budget. Of necessity, this would change in 1994.

New activities since 1994

To support the development of an information-sharing network and preparation of technical studies, Four Directions Council has, since 1994:

(a) Established collaborative relationships with three academic programmes that serve indigenous peoples (the Department of Native American Studies at the University of Lethbridge, the Native Law Centre of the University of Saskatchewan, and the Institute for Indigenous Government in Vancouver, British Columbia) and with First Peoples Worldwide, a newly established international development foundation controlled by indigenous peoples;

(b) Obtained more than \$100,000 in research grants and contracts from the MacArthur Foundation, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), International Labour Organization, and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. These funds have been used to employ students (chiefly indigenous people) to conduct research and to maintain regular telephone contact with cooperating grass-roots indigenous organizations in developing countries;

(c) Organized a documentation centre at the University of Lethbridge (in the heart of the traditional territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy) with United Nations documents, and print, interview and multimedia materials obtained from indigenous communities through the network.

As a result of these initiatives, Four Directions Council has been able to contact and exchange strategic information with more than 150 grass-roots indigenous peoples' organizations (86 per cent of them in 19 developing countries), chiefly by telephone and fax, and to build an extensive case-study database on transnational corporations' conduct and the responses of indigenous peoples.

The first publication resulting from this new programme of work is *Effective Negotiation by Indigenous Peoples: An Action Guide with Special Reference to North America*, which includes case studies written in collaboration with community activists from six North American indigenous nations. It was issued by the International Labour Organization in June 1997.

A second book, *Corporate Conduct and Indigenous Peoples: Impacts, Strategies, Outcomes*, is in preparation and will include case studies written in collaboration with community activists from 20 indigenous peoples in Latin America, South-East Asia, North America, and the Russian Federation.

In addition, Four Directions Council has contributed to information workshops on globalization, trade liberalization, and indigenous peoples throughout Canada and the United States, with the aim of mobilizing North American indigenous peoples and NGOs to take advocacy initiatives at the WTO, WIPO, and regional trade organizations.

In addition to these new initiatives, Four Directions Council has continued to send representatives to the annual sessions of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, and the working group of the Commission on Human Rights entrusted with elaborating a final text of the declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. Representatives also attended meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice established under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the Vancouver international summit of the Asia Pacific Economic Council.

6. Economists Allied for Arms Reduction

Special consultative status granted in 1995

Economists Allied for Arms Reduction (ECAAR) seeks to promote objective economic analysis and appropriate action on global issues relating to peace, security and the world economy. It supports and works for policies and institutions so that changes within States can be achieved through peaceful democratic processes and so that international disputes can be managed without war. It supports the creation of systems by which international disputes can be solved through negotiation, arbitration and judicial proceedings and through an enhanced United Nations and other multinational institutions, which will also address common global environmental needs while avoiding waste and enhancing international economic security.

Since 1995, the membership of the organization has doubled to over 2,000 members in 35 countries.

ECAAR's Executive Director, Board of Directors, and individual members participated in many United Nations NGO activities in 1995, including the fourth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development. During the Conference on Non-proliferation, the Executive Director spoke on the abolition of nuclear weapons.

In January 1995, ECAAR sponsored a panel at the annual meeting of the American Economic Association on "Economic aspects of United Nations Programs for Peace". Speakers included the ECAAR United Nations Observer, the co-chair of the board of directors, the United States Under-secretary of the Treasury, and the director of the Center for Defense Information. On 19 October 1995, ECAAR sponsored a panel discussion at the Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium entitled "Economic resources for peace", followed by a discussion on the United Nations financial status and the United States debt to the United Nations. Three board members of ECAAR, all Nobel Laureates, spoke at this event.

In 1995 ECAAR launched a demilitarization project focused on Guatemala. That year also saw the birth of the Vieques Conversion Project to generate a plan for the Puerto Rican island's conversion from a United States military base to a sound, ecologically sustainable economy. ECAAR received a \$15,000 challenge grant from the Columbia Foundation for its project Energy Agendas for Non-Proliferation: A Cost Comparison of Nuclear Power to Alternate Energy Sources, and a board member received support from the Ford Foundation to complete the Global Register of Experts on the Economics of Military Affairs.

ECAAR pursued its concern for the financial status of the United Nations in 1996, speaking and writing on United States responsibility to the United Nations and in some cases recommending its members to take direct action. For example, in April, ECAAR's United Nations Observer appealed to all United States members to send a \$7 check to the United Nations (representing their share of the dues owed by the United States) and to copy the check to their Congressional representatives.

ECAAR concentrated on its international objectives, particularly in Asia and Eurasia. One of ECAAR's board members sponsored an international conference on arms, security, and development in South Asia, held at Jawaharlal Nehru University in India. There were presentations on the nuclear question in South Asia and on disarmament and development, among others. The same board member established the Mahatma Gandhi International Training Center for Conflict Prevention and Management at the Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research in Ahmadabad, India. ECAAR's Japan affiliate held its sixth international symposium on "The security and economy of Asia", which centred on India's and Pakistan's nuclear tests and the Asian economic crisis. A new project was launched to engage the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea in intellectual exchange about the process of conversion from military to civilian production.

In 1997 ECAAR replaced its entire staff, hired a new Executive Director who had been a political affairs officer in the United Nations Secretariat Department for Disarmament Affairs, and moved to new offices closer to the United Nations. A

member of the board chaired a panel on "The role of the United Nations family in the new world order after the cold war" at the seventh international symposium in Japan.

For the Vieques Conversion Project, the Graduate School of Architecture, Preservation and Planning at Columbia University completed a study of economically sustainable uses for 8,000 acres of land then used by the United States military for a munitions depot. With the Oscar Arias Centre for Peace and Reconciliation, ECAAR completed the first phase of its project designed to support the demilitarization and peace process in Guatemala with a published study demonstrating the negative impact of military spending on the economy. ECAAR also continued its focus on nuclear issues with the Community Education Campaign, which provided economic analyses and technical assistance to help communities make the transition from nuclear production to clean-up of toxic waste.

The founding member of ECAAR's board gave a plenary session speech to the Annual Conference of NGOs in consultative status with the Department of Public Information in September of 1998. The title of the speech was "The post-conflict role of the international community in ensuring human rights".

ECAAR was active in the search for solutions to Russia's serious economic difficulties. ECAAR's Russian affiliate was formed in 1998 and immediately contributed to an international exchange about the state of the Russian economy in transition and the predicament of the Russian military. Members of the Russian affiliate along with United States board members participated in a seminar at the World Bank on the Russian economy. A board member recruited ECAAR scholars to develop three sets of proposals to help economic advisers to the Government of the Russian Federation. One proposal called for the provision of direct advice from a range of international sources, including ECAAR trustees, to Moscow officials on urgent issues, such as reforming the tax code and curbing capital flight.

ECAAR/South Africa worked to educate the public on the Government's plans to spend \$5 billion on defence procurement, production and personnel. An ECAAR board member spoke at hearings of the Swedish Parliament in Stockholm against the Saab Company's plans to sell fighters to South Africa and Brazil.

The Community Education Campaign published its findings in the *Atomic Audit*, which analyses the money spent by the United States to develop, build and deploy nuclear weapons. ECAAR board members and other scholars continued to investigate the question of military conversion following the cold war. In 1998 ECAAR developed its United States-based web site while several international affiliates established their own, greatly increasing ECAAR's ability to reach people worldwide. ECAAR panels at the 1998 annual meeting of the American Economic Association included "A new economic policy for Russia", "South Africa's defensive defense and its military production", and "The costs of the international arms trade".

ECAAR reached out to other organizations working on military/economic concerns, including the Center for Defense Information, the Brookings Institute, the British American Security Information Center, the Bonn International Conversion Centre, and the Centre for Economic Conversion. A panel on disarmament and development, to be co-sponsored by ECAAR with several United Nations bodies, including the Secretariat (Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of

Economic and Social Affairs), was planned for July of 1999, with ECAAR to publish papers of the proceedings.

7. Human Appeal International

Special consultative status granted in 1991

Human Appeal International (HAI) has the following goals:

- (a) Helping needy societies by improving their educational health, social and economic conditions;
- (b) Assisting in relieving societies stricken by natural disasters and social calamities;
- (c) Meeting the needs of orphans and improving their health, psychological, and social well-being;
- (d) Enhancing the relations and ties between HAI and its counterparts.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

<i>No.</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Date</i>	
(a)	Fourth United Nations Conference on Women	China	August 1995	Attended by Executive Director, International Relations Coordinator
(b)	UNDP	Syrian Arab Republic	February 1996	Attended by Executive Director, International Relations Coordinator
(c)	FAO	Morocco	April 1996	Attended by International Relations Coordinator
(d)	United Nations	New York	May 1996	Attended by International Relations Coordinator
(e)	HABITAT II	Turkey	June 1996	Attended by International Relations Coordinator
(f)	IFAD	Italy	November 1996	Attended by Executive Director, International Relations Coordinator
(g)	IFAD	Italy	February 1997	Attended by Executive Director, Italy Office Director
(h)	UNDP	Lebanon	December 1997	Attended by Executive Director
(i)	United Nations	New York	February 1998	Attended by International Relations Coordinator

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

In January 1997, HAI signed an agreement with UNHCR and the Government of the Sudan to implement a project on health assistance to the refugees in Um gargur, Karkora kashm El Girba, Kilo 26 and Shagarab. In November 1998, HAI contributed \$30,000 to UNHCR for humanitarian assistance related to the Kosovo crisis.

Other relevant activities

During the years 1995 to 1998, Human Appeal International continued to execute its main programme in social development, educational development, health care and urgent relief. The total amount spent was about \$19.5 million, distributed in the form of projects in 28 countries.

Each programme comprised many different and significant projects (about 310 in all), broken down as follows:

- (a) Running 12 primary and secondary schools;
- (b) Running 8 nurseries;
- (c) 40 public education centres;
- (d) Running 22 clinics;
- (e) Running 6 mobile clinics;
- (f) Running 60 health campaigns;
- (g) Digging 170 drinking water wells;
- (h) Supporting 12 productive families projects;
- (i) Funding 30 food aid projects;
- (j) Sponsoring 8,000 orphans;
- (k) Providing 5,000 tons of relief aid.

8. International Association for Volunteer Effort

Special consultative status granted in 1987

Mission

The International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE) remains unique — the only international membership organization that exists solely to promote and support more effective volunteer service by all people. Participation in IAVE is the way in which volunteer leaders demonstrate their solidarity with the growing worldwide volunteer movement.

IAVE has an international board of directors with members from 19 countries. The work of the organization is done solely by volunteers with the support of many of the "national volunteer centres" and other volunteer organizations that exist throughout the world.

Activities

Biennial world conferences

The IAVE conferences move throughout the world, planned and managed by local host committees. The conferences raise awareness of the importance of volunteering, draw leaders from the public and private sectors into the volunteer community and offer a unique opportunity for volunteer leaders from throughout the region to build their skills and to learn from colleagues worldwide. Over 100 countries have been represented at IAVE's 15 biennial world conferences, and over 400 scholarships have been provided for participants in the past six conferences alone. Three biennial conferences were held during the reporting period. In 1994 the conference was in Tokyo, Japan, and 76 countries attended. In 1996 56 countries attended the conference in Capetown, South Africa; and in 1998 80 countries attended the conference in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The Executive Coordinator of United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Sharon Capeling-Alakija, gave the keynote address at the Edmonton conference, speaking on the International Year of Volunteers.

The next conference will be held 14-19 January 2001 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, as the launch of the International Year of Volunteers (2001), proclaimed by the General Assembly in 1997. In alternate years, IAVE and its members convene in regional conferences, which offer people who are unable to attend the world conference an opportunity to be involved. Regional conferences typically focus on the exchange of best practices and skill development training. The following were held during the time period: 20 countries in the North American region, in collaboration with Wild Rose Foundation, met in Canada; 23 countries in the Asia/Pacific region met in the Philippines, resulting in the formation of the Philippines Association for Volunteer Effort (PAVE); and 23 countries in the same regional conference met in the Republic of Korea.

Volunteer centres

IAVE is committed to supporting the development of strong national and local volunteer centres throughout the world. IAVE has also begun to develop materials to help stimulate and support the development of new national centres. IAVE created a Universal Declaration on Voluntarism, in 1990, which is used by many volunteer centres around the world.

Education and training

IAVE has provided training programmes for indigenous grass-roots leaders in techniques of volunteer mobilization and management, corporate volunteer programme development, and the development of local volunteer centres.

Public awareness

IAVE has played a major role in promoting the annual celebration of International Volunteer Day on 5 December. IAVE members also work with local governments throughout the world. In 1994, after its Tokyo conference IAVE began supporting the Japanese Diet in putting together the proposal for the United Nations declaration of the International Year of the Volunteer in 2001 (IYV). The Japanese Government later made formal submission to the Economic and Social Council.

IAVE began its appeal to all Governments to acknowledge and support the declaration of the Year and has continued to support the Year, working closely with United Nations Volunteers starting in 1996.

At the 1998 IAVE World Conference, the Canadian Prime Minister supported the conference and formally supported the declaration of the Year.

Youth involvement

IAVE is committed to drawing young people into active participation in all aspects of its work and to supporting the growing worldwide interest in youth volunteering. A special international task force of IAVE members leads this effort.

Membership services

IAVE currently has individual, corporate and organizational members from more than 100 countries. In addition, it has a growing number of affiliated national associations of volunteering, each with its own membership. Through its tri-annual newsletter (currently published by volunteers in English, Spanish, French and Japanese), IAVE creates communication networks among its members for sharing ideas, problems, answers and resources. IAVE also has a volunteer liaison representative who attends all United Nations public information meetings for non-governmental organizations and provides regular reporting on United Nations activities for the newsletter.

Support for United Nations activities

In 1994, the IAVE President addressed Asia/Pacific NGO Conference on the World Summit for Social Development (Manila), speaking on the volunteer movement worldwide and the leadership roles in the movement of IAVE and UNV.

The IAVE President attended sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development (January 1995), and an IAVE delegation attended the Summit itself in Copenhagen in March 1995. The IAVE President was invited to address the General Assembly of NGOs on IAVE interventions on the following matters: "Improving arrangements for volunteering part-time", "Supporting networks for volunteer management" and "The pursuit of volunteering in business enterprises". At the Summit, IAVE proposed an amendment to the draft declaration, which was accepted. All IAVE documents were circulated to the world press present at the Summit and its delegation met with more than 50 governmental delegations to discuss their interventions, and IAVE members wrote to all other Governments present.

In July 1995 the IAVE President was invited to chair a meeting of the General Assembly on governance for the next decade, in celebration of the United Nations fiftieth birthday. The President addressed the meeting on volunteering for the next decade.

An IAVE capacity-building training programme was conducted in Fiji for the development of non-governmental organizations in Pacific Island countries.

The IAVE President visited Bangladesh immediately prior to national elections to congratulate the United Nations and other volunteer groups who were assisting in

ensuring free and fair elections. Visits were made to United Nations projects in Dhaka and also to rural areas.

In 1996 more than 30 African countries pledged to support the recognition of volunteers on International Volunteer Day and to report to IAVE and UNV on their undertakings.

In 1997, the IAVE Vice-President represented IAVE and made formal presentations to the Council for the Year of Volunteers. Presentations were also made by the Government of Japan and UNDP. All participants were urged to support the Year. IAVE asked that national plans for the Year be ready for presentation and consideration at the 1999-2000 IAVE regional meetings.

9. International Institute of Humanitarian Law

Special consultative status granted in 1983

Teaching and training

Military courses

The International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) regularly organizes courses in San Remo on the law of armed conflict for officers of national armed forces, with the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross. These two-week courses aim at promoting in the armed forces a wider awareness of international humanitarian rules applicable in armed conflict situations so as to ensure a higher level of respect and compliance with such rules. Human rights in conflict situations and the special role of the United Nations peacekeeping forces are also dealt with. In the period 1995-1998, 25 courses were organized in English, French and Spanish (occasionally in Arabic and Portuguese) for 901 senior officers, from 104 countries.

In April and May two seminars on human rights for military personnel took place, in collaboration with the Centre for Human Rights, at the ILO Centre in Turin — one in English for Eastern European countries, including the Russian Federation, and the other in Portuguese. Fifty-three officers participated, from 17 countries.

Courses on international refugee law

The IIHL courses on international refugee law, organized with the support and under the auspices of UNHCR and the Swiss Federal Office for Refugees, are meant for governmental officials and NGO and Red Cross or Red Crescent personnel with specific responsibilities for the problems of refugees and asylum-seekers. In the period 1995-1998, four courses were organized in English; 176 participants attended, from 84 countries.

A course on refugee law for Arab countries was organized in Cairo in 1997 by UNHCR, in collaboration with the Institute. Diplomats and high-level officials from 15 Arab countries participated together with representatives of the Arab League and UNHCR.

Conferences, seminars and meetings of experts

Annual round tables or congresses

Through the years under review IHHL has affirmed its reputation as an independent setting for experts from Governments, international organizations and humanitarian institutions and for individual experts to meet at an annual round table or congress and have an informal dialogue on current problems of international humanitarian law. The titles of the meetings were as follows:

- 1995: United for the Respect of International Humanitarian Law, 170 participants;
- 1996: Armed Conflicts and Disintegration of States: Humanitarian Challenge, 148 participants;
- 1997: Impact of Humanitarian Assistance and the Mass Media on the Evolution of Conflict Situations, 178 participants;
- 1998: The International Criminal Court: Evaluation and Progress of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference in Rome, 141 participants.

Other meetings of experts

(a) 13-14 May 1995, Geneva: Meeting on Humanitarian Consequences of Embargo Measures. A group of 20 experts discussed the problem with specific reference to the need for the protection of the civilian population;

(b) 12-14 June 1995, Warsaw: Second International Conference on Refugees in Central and Eastern Europe. Seventy-seven experts and governmental representatives from 24 countries attended to exchange experiences on legal procedures determining refugee status. Possible technical aid from Western European countries concerning the organization of information services within competent national authorities was also discussed;

(c) 9-11 February 1996, Ferney-Voltaire (France): Meeting of Experts on the Rights of Migrants. Thirty-four participants from non-governmental organizations and various countries participated;

(d) 21-22 March 1996, Zurich: Meeting of Governmental Experts on the Protection of Asylum-Seekers. Twenty-two representatives from 13 European countries and from Australia, Canada and the United States attended and discussed the obligation of States to readmit their own nationals, temporary protection, development assistance for the countries of origin, and the applicability of the 1951 Refugee Convention;

(e) 6-8 June 1996, Taormina (Italy): Symposium on Respect for Human Rights in Times of Emergency and Armed Conflict. The Symposium promoted in-depth examination of the application of the International Covenants on Human Rights, covering four main topics: systematic relations between IHHL and human rights; the United Nations and respect for human rights in armed conflicts; peacekeeping operations and human rights; the repression of violations of human rights in times of armed conflict. Ninety-four experts, governmental representatives and Red Cross/Red Crescent delegates attended from all over the world.

(f) 17-19 June 1996, Bucharest: Seminar on the Right to Return to One's Own Country (XII European Dialogue on Current Humanitarian Issues). Organized in collaboration with Romanian authorities and the Swiss Federal Office for Refugees, the Seminar brought together 66 experts from Governments and humanitarian agencies to discuss the effective application of the right to return to one's own country. Special attention was given to crucial problems arising from cases of disintegration, fragmentation and implosion of States, as in Afghanistan, Liberia, Somalia and in territories of the former Soviet Union and the former Yugoslavia;

(g) 20-24 May 1997, Madrid: Symposium on the Resettlement of Refugees in Europe. Organized in collaboration with the national Spanish UNHCR Committee, the Symposium brought together 44 experts from UNHCR, IOM and various non-governmental organizations. Legal, political and humanitarian aspects of resettlement were discussed;

(h) 12-14 June 1997, Moscow: Seminar on Reception Procedures for Refugees and Asylum Seekers: The Need for Standards (XIII European Dialogue on Current Humanitarian Issues). Sixty-six participants from 17 Governments and UNHCR, IOM, Council of Europe and ICRC discussed reception procedures, with the aim of defining a set of generally acceptable standards to comply with current international law.

Research work

In 1998, the Council of IHL approved the commencement of research on humanitarian protection in non-international conflicts. The research will result in the publication of a manual, possibly in 2001.

10. International Movement ATD Fourth World

General consultative status granted in 1991

Aims and purposes

The International Movement ATD Fourth World engages individuals and institutions in support of the efforts of people living in poverty to free themselves from destitution. Founded in 1957 by Joseph Wresinski, whose family had suffered from great poverty, ATD Fourth World has branches on all continents and correspondents in 116 countries. It is not affiliated with any political party or religious group. Its members are united by respect for each person's dignity. Grass-roots projects are developed in partnership with persons and communities in destitute areas. These projects vary from training and creating employment to fostering artistic creation, education, social participation, good health and protection of the environment. Since the organization's last report, there have been no substantial changes in geographical membership or sources of funding.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

General Assembly. In October 1998, at a special joint meeting of the Second and Third Committees, ATD Fourth World was asked to speak on a panel addressing poverty, development and human rights.

Economic and Social Council. Representatives of ATD Fourth World attended in 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998. At these meetings, they took the floor in 1997 and 1998 on items relating to extreme poverty and human rights.

Commission on Human Rights. Representatives attended the fifty-first session (1995) and made a statement on item 7; at the fifty-second, fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions (1996, 1997 and 1998), they made statements on item 5. In addition, at the fifty-fourth session, the NGO Fourth World Committee organized a panel discussion, in which ATD Fourth World played an active role. Representatives also attended the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (forty-seventh session in 1995, forty-eighth session in 1996, forty-ninth session in 1997, fiftieth session in 1998) and made statements on items 8 and 10.

Commission for Social Development. The organization's Vice-President attended and made an oral statement at the thirty-fifth session (1997) and oral and written statements on item 3 (b) at the thirty-sixth session (1998).

Commission for Sustainable Development. A representative attended in 1995.

World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995). The organization's President made a statement to the Summit on the theme, "Rethinking human activity in order to fight poverty and exclusion". At the NGO Forum, ATD Fourth World ran a workshop on the same theme.

World Youth Forum (Portugal, 1998). The organization's representative attended and presented a written joint statement of non-governmental organizations. ATD Fourth World shared responsibility for running a working group on poverty eradication and social development, and collaborated on the drafting committee.

Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995). Two representatives attended.

ESCAP (Bangkok). Representatives of ATD Fourth World attended the fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions of ESCAP as well as several regional meetings on the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development (Asia/Pacific region).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

UNICEF: In 1995, ATD Fourth World presented a written statement to the Executive Board at its third session concerning the mid-decade goals for children and the World Summit for Social Development. In 1996, ATD Fourth World and UNICEF co-hosted an international seminar on the theme "Reaching the poorest". During 1997-1998, ATD Fourth World supported UNICEF's efforts to compile a report on the seminar. In 1997, ATD Fourth World contributed to research done by the UNICEF health secretariat on "reaching the unreached".

High Commissioner for Human Rights. In 1995, ATD Fourth World submitted a statement which was annexed to E/CN.4/1995/101. In 1997 the organization

submitted a statement concerning the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

ILO: At the eighty-second session of the General Conference in Geneva, ATD Fourth World submitted a written statement to the general debate on the issue of promoting employment. Representatives attended the ILO Regional Conference held in Bangkok in December 1997.

UNDP: On 17 October 1995, UNDP's Administrator read the message of the United Nations Secretary-General at the commemoration for the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, held at United Nations Headquarters and organized by ATD Fourth World and the United Nations Secretariat Department of Public Information. In 1996-1997, as part of UNDP's Sister Cities International campaign, ATD Fourth World convinced the Mayor of New Orleans to declare 17 October the World Day for Overcoming Poverty in that city. At the request of UNDP in the spring of 1997, ATD Fourth World prepared a paper on the history of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. ATD Fourth World has continued to follow the work of the UNDP Executive Board. The organization cooperated with the European Office of UNDP in Geneva in preparation of the World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty (Lyon, France, 1998) and for the annual observances of 17 October. At the national and regional level, 17 October has been the occasion of various types of collaboration.

UNESCO: The organization participated in the World Collective Consultation of Youth NGOs, organized by UNESCO, in cooperation with the Latin American Youth Forum (FLA), with the support of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (Chile, September 1997). The organization's representatives took the floor during the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth sessions of the General Conference in Paris (1995 and 1997) and during the second extraordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the World Decade for Cultural Development (1995). In Tokyo in 1995, the organization attended both the collective NGO consultations on illiteracy and basic education and the collective consultations on youth. ATD Fourth World participated in the Asia/Pacific Meeting of Youth Organizations in preparation for the Third World Forum, organized by UNESCO and ESCAP (Bangkok, May 1998). In 1995, the Under-Director-General for social and human sciences represented UNESCO at the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, organized by ATD Fourth World in Paris. ATD Fourth World made a statement at the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Development (Stockholm, April 1998), which adopted a resolution on meeting the aspirations of the very poor to cultural development. UNESCO's principal regional office in Asia and the Pacific financed a special art project run by ATD Fourth World in two deprived communities in Bangkok and co-sponsored the exhibition following the project, entitled "Blue buffaloes in the sky". ATD Fourth World representatives made an oral statement during a panel discussion on poverty during the NGO Forum at UNESCO (November 1998), and made oral and written statements during the "Week of UNESCO" in Tupiza (Bolivia), during the seminar on "Eradication of poverty in the dawn of the twenty-first century".

FAO: Participation in the World Food Summit (Rome, 1996).

WHO: In 1996, WHO invited ATD Fourth World to give the keynote speech on poverty and ill health at an international conference in Maynooth, Ireland. This was followed up in September 1997 by an invitation for ATD Fourth World to speak at

the International Health Conference, held in Baltimore, and co-sponsored by WHO and by the state of Maryland.

World Bank: In 1998, the Vice-President of ATD Fourth World and the President of its United States branch were both invited to contribute research to an ongoing World Bank project on extreme poverty and human rights.

UNCHS (Habitat): In May 1998, UNCHS and the NGO Committee on Human Settlements invited ATD Fourth World to speak on partnership and community-building at a forum called "Habitat watch: towards sustainability and adequacy of settlements at Habitat II+2".

Other relevant activities

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

(a) International Day of Families (15 May). Every year, ATD Fourth World issues a public statement concerning the effects of extreme poverty on the family unit and the ways in which families resist poverty. ATD Fourth World also observes this day publicly on many continents;

(b) In December 1992, the General Assembly established 17 October as International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Because the organization's founder was the initiator of the day's first observance in 1987, ATD Fourth World has widely publicized this resolution. In 1995 and 1996, the organization submitted reports to the Secretary-General describing the diverse and creative ways in which its members around the world observe this day. At United Nations Headquarters in New York and at the United Nations Office in Geneva, commemorations are co-organized by the United Nations, ATD Fourth World, member States and 33 other non-governmental organizations. The commemorations include music, a theatrical presentation by children who fight poverty in their daily lives, and testimonies bearing witness to efforts made to overcome poverty. In 1998, an outdoor art exhibit was set up in New York;

(c) To launch the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty in 1996, a representative of ATD Fourth World was invited by UNDP to inaugurate a "poverty clock". On 17 October of that year, France offered the United Nations a commemorative stone in the honour of the victims of extreme poverty. It is a replica of a stone first inaugurated by ATD Fourth World in France in 1987. The replica stands in the garden of United Nations Headquarters, where annual commemorations are held.

(d) International Day of Volunteers (5 December) is celebrated by ATD Fourth World in various countries, by joining celebrations organized by United Nations agencies or other NGOs, by participating in meetings, and by contributing to exhibitions.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

In 1995, the President and Vice-President of ATD Fourth World were received by the Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development concerning the International Year of the Family, youth issues, and the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty. The President was also received by the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva. In

July 1996, the United Nations Secretary-General invited an international delegation of ATD Fourth World to consult with him and with staff representing a dozen United Nations agencies on proposals for the implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty. That two-day event in Geneva is documented in the video, "From Darkness to Light". In 1997, the Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs received ATD Fourth World's Secretary-General to discuss the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development. Since 1996, the Under-Secretary-General has made time each year on 17 October to join families living in poverty and others from all walks of life, at the Commemorative Stone in Honour of the Victims of Extreme Poverty at the United Nations in New York.

In 1998, the High Commissioner for Human Rights received the Executive Secretary of ATD Fourth World in preparation for an observance of the tenth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Each year, the Director-General of FAO sends the President of ATD Fourth World a message for the celebration of 17 October. The Director-General of UNESCO attended observances of 17 October organized by ATD Fourth World in Paris. In 1998, he received the President of ATD Fourth World. In 1995-1998, representatives of ATD Fourth World also consulted with the Assistant Secretary-General for External Relations, the ILO Director-General, and the independent expert on extreme poverty and human rights. In November 1997, the Secretariat's "One Percent for Development Fund" granted \$6,000 to an ATD Fourth World project to build a community laundry in Apanto, Bolivia. The building makes water accessible to those who had no access to water before.

Preparation of papers at the request of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies or of the United Nations Secretariat

(a) "Final report on human rights and extreme poverty, submitted by the Special Rapporteur ..." (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/13). ATD Fourth World's founder called for this report in addressing the Commission on Human Rights in 1987. The special rapporteur's mandate required him to collaborate with people living in extreme poverty, which he did through extensive collaboration with ATD Fourth World;

(b) *Reaching the Poorest*. This fruit of a lengthy collaboration with UNICEF was first published in French in 1996. In 1997-1998, ATD Fourth World and UNICEF translated and published it in English;

(c) *Universal Declaration of Human Rights: 50 Years and Beyond* (November 1998). The President of ATD Fourth World was asked to contribute a chapter to this United Nations publication.

Collaboration with other non-governmental organizations

ATD Fourth World continues to be an active member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations. ATD Fourth World chaired in 1995-1998 the NGO working group at UNESCO on culture and development. In 1998, its representative was elected treasurer of the NGO Committee for Social Development. It is also part of the NGO Committee on UNICEF, the NGO Committee on Youth, and the NGO Committee on Human Rights. ATD Fourth World's representatives have also been invited to speak at a number of NGO conferences, including:

(a) 1998 DPI/NGO conference, during the dialogue on the human rights of older persons;

(b) A meeting of the Society for International Development (December 1998) at United Nations Headquarters, on extreme poverty and human rights.

ATD Fourth World co-organized with other non-governmental organizations the Human Rights Defenders Summit (Paris, December 1998), to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Other substantive activities

Many United Nations conferences and international years are reported on in ATD Fourth World's various newsletters in different countries (circulation: 400,000). Issues related to the United Nations and to poverty, including Agenda 21, the Agenda for Peace, and the Declaration and Programme of Action on Social Development are regularly integrated into the themes of ATD Fourth World human rights courses and summer activities. In this way, hundreds of thousands of citizens, among them people living in deep poverty, prepare to collaborate in the efforts of the United Nations to fight poverty and to promote peace.

Publications

For the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, ATD Fourth World published a collection of seven articles, entitled *Extreme Poverty: The New Face of Apartheid*. The *Letter to Friends Around the World* is a newsletter published in English, French and Spanish three times each year and sent to individuals, organizations, universities and civil servants, in more than 100 countries. For the World Decade for Cultural Development, the UNESCO/NGO working group on culture and development, chaired by ATD Fourth World, published, with UNESCO *Culture, A Way to Fight Extreme Poverty*.

11. Perhaps ... Kids Meeting Kids Can Make a Difference

Special consultative status granted in 1995

Aims and purposes

Perhaps ... Kids Meeting Kids brings children and youth, aged 5-24, together from all backgrounds and nations in an effort to create a world that is peaceful and just. Their work together makes it possible for kids from many countries to know that they, too, can participate, take action for positive change and make a difference in the world in which they live. The organization is run by children and youth. Decisions are reached by consensus and made by young people working in cooperation with a few supportive adults. Actions taken are the actions of young people.

Kids Meeting Kids has organized and operates an international children's rights network for young people and has distributed information worldwide on the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It has worked continuously every year from 1995 to the present to inform young people of their rights and to urge adult leaders to both ratify and enforce the Convention.

Kids Meeting Kids has maintained a pen pal network and a computer network since 1995 which publishes information on violations of children's rights and helps children and youth find ways to work together peacefully to help one another. Reports of Kids Meeting Kids' activities were shared with the Commission on Human Rights in 1998, 1999 and 2000.

Kids Meeting Kids works in collaboration with other organizations to secure peace and justice for children — and adults — in all countries. Representatives of the organization have worked with the Economic and Social Council, and the United Nations NGO Committees on Youth, Narcotics, Disarmament, and Human Rights from 1995 to 2000. It has attended meetings of the Third Committee and worked actively with the Graca Machel study on children in armed conflict. Representatives have worked, as well, with the NGO Committee of UNICEF, taking very active roles in the UNICEF NGO Working Groups on Children in Armed Conflict, the Rights of the Child, the Girl Child, and Education.

In 2000 and 2001, Kids Meeting Kids is working actively to help provide the youth component for the Preparatory Committee for the tenth anniversary follow-up to the World Summit for Children, to be held in 2001.

In 1996 and 1997 representatives of Kids Meeting Kids helped to develop a summary of international laws protecting children in armed conflict.

Kids Meeting Kids holds annual international children's congresses, most often in collaboration with UNICEF. Children and youth delegates are invited from each of the Missions to the United Nations. The Congresses have dealt with issues of children's rights, children caring for one another in the world, and non-violence/peace education.

At the time of Graca Machel's report on children in armed conflict, Kids Meeting Kids hosted a youth congress involving children who had been the victims of war. With Graca Machel, they presented their case before an open meeting at the United Nations.

Kids Meeting Kids is planning an international children's congress for 2000 and 2001 which will address issues of children's rights and other issues current with the United Nations.

12. Association of Arab-American University Graduates

Special consultative status granted in 1995

The Association of Arab-American University Graduates (AAUG) is a not-for-profit educational and cultural organization representing the broad spectrum of Arab-American professionals. Through its publications and activities, AAUG has been a consistent voice for justice and peace in the Middle East.

AAUG publishes three periodicals. *Arab Studies Quarterly* is the flagship publication and the largest circulating journal in English devoted exclusively to the Arab world. *AAUG Monitor* is a quarterly publication which includes analysis and commentary of current events and trends. The *AAUG Newsletter* supports the membership by providing a forum for news of the Association's activities and the views of its membership.

AAUG coordinates a mentorship programme to bring together experienced scholars and professionals from various fields with students and young professionals.

AAUG organizes an annual national conference and smaller local seminars on the Middle East and Arab-American issues. It also holds special conferences in the Arab world in cooperation with local academic institutions. In the past it has held joint conferences with Bir Zeit University, the University of Jordan and, in the summer of 2000, in Beirut in collaboration with the Center for Arab Studies.

Participation in United Nations conferences and/or meetings

A representative of AAUG attended meetings of the Economic and Social Council in July 1997, 1998 and 1999.

A representative of AAUG has been a member of the Planning Committee for the DPI/NGO Annual Conference for three consecutive years (1998, 1999, 2000), and an AAUG member was chair of the Registration Committee in 2000. An AAUG representative was elected a member of the DPI/NGO Executive Committee.

On the question of Palestine, AAUG representatives have attended the relevant meetings of the Second Committee and the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, most recently on 17 October 2000.